

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

5

OF THE

MANAGERS OF THE

SOCIETY

FOR THE

Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents,

TO

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE,

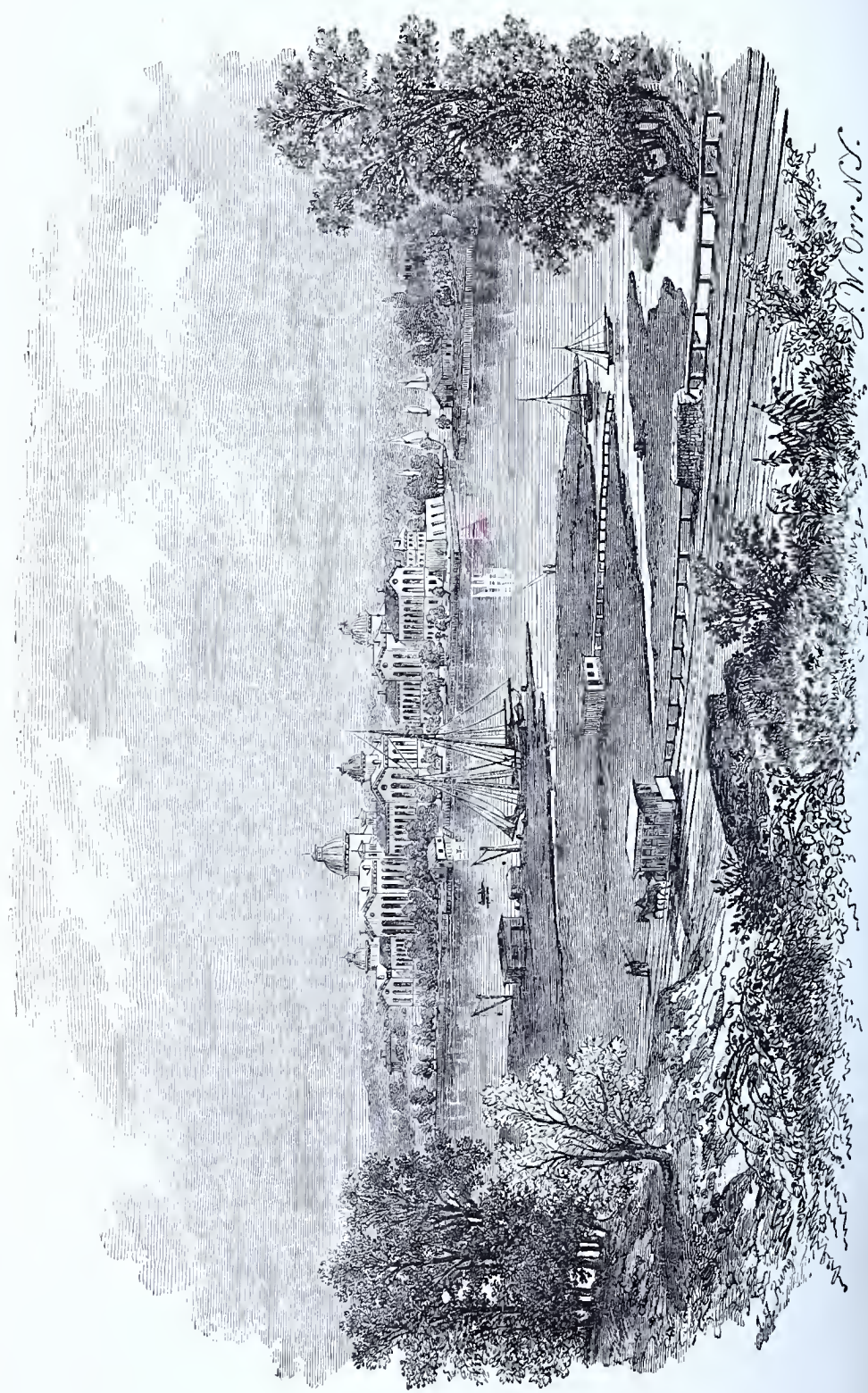
AND THE

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

1865.



NEW YORK:
PRESS OF WYNKOOP & HALLENBECK,
No. 113 FULTON STREET.
1866.



J. W. Orr. N.Y.

HOUSE OF REFUGE--RANDALL'S ISLAND.

CITY OF NEW YORK

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OFFICERS AND MANAGERS. 1866.

PRESIDENT,
OLIVER S. STRONG.

<p style="text-align: center;">VICE-PRESIDENTS,</p> <p>SHEPHERD KNAPP, JAMES N. COBB, WALTER UNDERHILL,</p>		<p>JAMES W. UNDERHILL, JOHN W. C. LEVERIDGE, BENJAMIN B. ATTERBURY.</p>
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TREASURER,
WALTER UNDERHILL.

SECRETARY,
ANDREW WARNER.

<i>Term expires 1867.</i>	<i>Term expires 1868.</i>	<i>Term expires 1869.</i>
<p>JAMES W. UNDERHILL, WALTER UNDERHILL, EDGAR S. VAN WINKLE, JOHN J. TOWNSEND, BENJAMIN B. ATTERBURY, WILLIAM M. PRICHARD, MORRIS FRANKLIN, CYRUS P. SMITH, Brooklyn, H. Q. HAWLEY, Albany, D. THOMAS VAIL, Troy.</p>	<p>JAMES N. COBB, JOHN A. WEEKS, PETER McMARTIN, ANDREW WARNER, EDGAR KETCHUM, HENRY K. BOGERT, NICHOLAS D. HERDER, RICHARD M. HOE, FREDERICK W. DOWNER, GEO. W. CLINTON, Buffalo.</p>	<p>JAMES M. HALSTED, WILLIAM CROMWELL, SHEPHERD KNAPP, OLIVER S. STRONG, HENRY M. ALEXANDER, SAMUEL W. TORREY, HENRY A. CRAM, JOHN W. C. LEVERIDGE, D. JACKSON STEWARD, BENJ. D. SILLIMAN, B'klyn.</p>

CLERK OF THE SOCIETY, } CITY OFFICE, 516 BROADWAY.

SUPERINTENDENT,
ISRAEL C. JONES.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS,

EDWARD H. HALLOCK.		SILAS A. BRUSH.
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<p>PHYSICIAN, HENRY N. WHITTELSEY, M.D.</p>		<p>CHAPLAIN, REV. BRADFORD K. PEIRCE.</p>
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PRINCIPAL OF BOYS' SCHOOL,
EDWARD H. HALLOCK,

ASSISTANT TEACHERS,

<p>JOHN A. DEADY, WILLIAM W. PAGE, L. VELONA STOCKWELL, MAY HOWELL, HELEN UNDERHILL,</p>		<p>MARY E. ROYCE, JENNIE E. MONFORT, SARAH K. PEIRCE, MARY PURTELL, SARAH E. ATKINS.</p>
--	--	--

<p>MATRON, CATHARINE M. LOGAN.</p>		<p>ASSISTANT MATRON, PHEBE A. COOPER.</p>
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TEACHERS IN GIRLS' SCHOOL,

<p>CARRIE S. MONFORT, CATHARINE HARRIS.</p>		<p>MAGGIE E. ROSSITER,</p>
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HOUSE OF REFUGE, RANDALL'S ISLAND, FERRY FOOT OF 117TH STREET.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1866.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

BENJAMIN B. ATTERBURY,		JAMES N. COBB,
CYRUS P. SMITH,		D. JACKSON STEWARD,
NICHOLAS D. HERDER.		

FINANCE COMMITTEE,

SHEPHERD KNAPP,		JAMES W. UNDERHILL,
JOHN A. WEEKS.		

INDENTURING COMMITTEE,

EDGAR KETCHUM,		HENRY K. BOGERT,
FREDERICK W. DOWNER,		WILLIAM CROMWELL,
MORRIS FRANKLIN.		

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OLIVER S. STRONG,		PETER McMARTIN,
JAMES M. HALSTED,		HENRY M. ALEXANDER.

LAW COMMITTEE,

WILLIAM M. PRICHARD,		HENRY A. CRAM,
EDGAR S. VAN WINKLE.		

LIBRARY COMMITTEE,

D. JACKSON STEWARD,		JOHN J. TOWNSEND,
OLIVER S. STRONG.		

LADIES' COMMITTEE,

ANNA M. ROBERT,		MARIA A. NEEFUS,
SARAH B. BROWN,		HANNAH HART,
MELISSA P. DODGE,		SARAH W. DOWNER,
AMELIA PAGE,		SARAH LANKFORD,
GRACE DICKINSON,		R. L. MURRAY,
PAULINA D. SANDS,		S. UNDERHILL.

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Honorable Legislature of New York, and the Corporation of the City of New York :

The Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in the city of New York, in conformity with the provisions of their act of incorporation, passed March 29, 1824, respectfully

REPORT :

That the whole number of children received into the House of Refuge since its opening in 1825, is.....	10,853
That the number of children in the House on the 1st day of January, 1865, was.....	718
That there have been received during the year 1865..	824
Making a total of.....	1,542
That there have been indentured and discharged during the year.....	603
And there remain in the House on the 1st of January, 1866.....	939

The Superintendent's statement hereto annexed contains all the particulars required by the act referred to, as to the sources from which the inmates of the House have been received, and the disposition that has been made of them, as well as many other facts and statistics of interest in the history of the institution during the past year.

The very large increase in the number of the children committed to the House, being nearly fifty per cent. on

the number committed during 1864, and about seventy-five per cent. on the average of the three years preceding, is a fact calculated to excite inquiry. In former Reports it was stated that the commitments during the years of the war for the suppression of the Rebellion did not keep pace with the natural increase of our population, nor accord with the ratio of increase as shown in our experience of former years. In reference to boys, this was attributed in some measure to the fact that the enlistments for the supply of our armies had been "from among the youth of our community between the ages of 15 and 18, and including all classes." That this will to some extent account for the sudden increase may be conjectured by a comparison of the commitments of girls during the past year with those of previous years. The excess during the past year in their case over 1864 amounts to about thirty-four per cent., and beyond the average of the three years immediately preceding to only forty-four per cent., while of boys there were committed in 1865 about eighty-one per cent. on the average of those sent during the three years preceding 1864. We have no reason to suppose that there was any less vigilance exercised with regard to the conviction and commitment of youthful offenders during those years than during the year just closed, and though there may have been some minor causes contributing to this result, we still think that the cause assigned in our Thirty-eighth Annual Report for 1862 was in the main the true one. But in another view this increase in the number of our inmates is of much moment to the Managers and to the State at large. Instead of an average of 638 children to feed, clothe and educate, as was shown in our last Annual Report, we have had an average of 820 during 1865 to care for; and by a reference to the weekly census table in the Appendix, it will be seen that for the last three months of the year we have had but

little short of 1,000 children under our charge. The prices of the leading articles of consumption still continue far in advance of those ruling through past years previous to the war, and the cost of maintenance for so numerous a household is hence greatly enhanced. The Managers call attention to the comparisons of the cost *per capita* of feeding, clothing, and supporting their inmates given in their last Report, and now continued for the year 1865.

In 1862 the average cost of food and provisions for each child was, ..	\$33 61
" 1863 it was,	37 31
" 1864 "	47 00
" 1865 "	48 15

In the article of clothing, the cost for each child was, in 1862, \$12.73, in 1864, \$19.89, and in 1865, \$24.13.

The expenses for heating and lighting were, for each inmate, in 1861, \$6.26, in 1864, \$13.50, and in 1865, \$9.08. The decrease exhibited in these last expenses arises from the fall in the price of coal during the early summer, of which the Managers took advantage to lay in their stock of fuel for the winter. These figures show that, during the past two years, the expenses of the House in these, the leading causes of outlay for support, exclusive of salaries of officers, have been nearly the same *per capita*, and largely in advance of any of the preceding years. In the item of salaries of officers, it will be seen that the cost *per capita* does not follow the same law, but decreases with the increase of the number of children in the House. The following comparison is worthy of attention :

In 1862, the amount paid for salaries was \$13,355.

Or for an average of 494.....	\$27 00 per head
In 1863, \$13,768 " 537.....	25 64 "
In 1864, \$15,879 " 638.....	24 88 "
In 1865, \$16,323 " 820.....	19 90 "

There has been a striking similarity in the cost *per*

capita during the years 1864 and 1865 in the current expenses of the House. In our Report of the former year, it was shown to be \$122.77, and now, with an average of 820 children during the latter, it is \$122.70, these figures showing the great advance in the cost of maintenance during the periods designated, from the cause above adverted to. The expense of each child during the years prior to 1861 rarely exceeded \$100, frequently falling much below that sum.

The Report of the Superintendent, in the Appendix, states the amount received from the labor of the boys to have been \$34,586.44, which shows a contribution of \$42.18 for each inmate to the support of the institution. The Managers think it just to all the children that this amount of money received for the labor of one sex should be divided by the average of both sexes in the House, as by the labor of the girls in the domestic work of the institution, a larger number of the other sex can be employed under contracts yielding an income. But our boys are not all engaged under contract, and their labor on the grounds, and that part of the island rendered tillable by the work of other boys in previous years, has yielded largely to the comfort and health of all in the produce of the land under cultivation. Thus it will be perceived that the House of Refuge is a house of industry, in which all are co-workers for a common good, the officers and children giving and receiving benefits, the latter advancing in moral, mental and physical culture, and growing in fitness for all the experiences of life. The Managers commend the Report of the Superintendent to the attention and rigid scrutiny of both the Legislature and the City Corporation.

But the chief source of anxiety to the Managers is the present crowded state of the Boys' House. By the Act of June, 1851, it was rendered incumbent upon the

Managers to erect buildings upon their new location on Randall's Island for 1,000 inmates. In their plans they accordingly arranged to accommodate 750 boys and 250 girls, that being supposed to be about the proportions in which those of each sex would be committed to their care. In order to give each boy a separate dormitory, it will require another wing to the Boys' House, in addition to the two now built. A wing that would accommodate 200 would give us 836 sleeping-rooms in all. The school and dining-rooms erected in 1861 afford the necessary space for our present number, and with a small addition to one of the shops, or by the erection of another, we should be provided with the requisite buildings for the number originally contemplated. The Managers cannot refrain from pressing this matter upon the serious attention of the Legislature, for both the Superintendent and House Physician are very apprehensive that in the present crowded state of the Boys' House very serious consequences might arise, and the spread of disease become uncontrollable, should any epidemic prevail either within or without our walls.

The utmost precautions are used to preserve cleanliness and to keep up a thorough system of ventilation ; but, with all the care that can be exercised, there are times when, in a large number of persons collected in one establishment, living in confinement, it is impossible to prevent malignant diseases, and consequently increased mortality. The House of Refuge in New York has ever been remarkable for the health and freedom of its inmates from epidemics, and it is the ardent wish of the Managers that it shall not lose its pre-eminence in this particular. By the Report of the Physician it will be seen that, among the 1,542 children within its walls during the year, there have been but a little over 200 treated in the hospital, and only five deaths.

The question, however, arises, What is to be done, should

the commitments to the House increase beyond, or even keep up to, the average of the year just closed? Shall the Managers, feeling their inability, with the present amount of space within the House, properly to care for an additional number, having a due regard both to their physical and moral condition, close their doors against further admissions, or, in order to make room for the new-comers, discharge inmates only just beginning to reap the benefits of the training given them in the institution, and before they shall have become confirmed in habits of industry and in the principles and practice of a virtuous life? If the Legislature be not prepared to aid the Managers by the necessary appropriations for building increased accommodations, they will be compelled to adopt one or the other of these two courses, however they may regret the consequences.

The Managers would advert to some changes in the mode of discipline pursued in the House introduced during the year, from which they hope the best results. They are not willing to settle down into one routine, and, throwing aside the knowledge gained by an experience of forty years in the training of these offending youths, make no changes, from fear of producing injury where they would confer benefit. The system of grades established at the origin of the House of Refuge, determined by good conduct and diligence in the shops and schools, has never been departed from, it having proved so wholesome in its effects upon the inmates. But we have thought that it might be developed into greater efficiency by making the discharges from the institution depend in a large measure upon it. The rule has been established by the Indenturing Committee that a boy or girl shall continue for six weeks successively in "Grade 1" before any application will be entertained by the Committee from friends for the child's discharge; and if he or she has heretofore, been from bad conduct,

degraded to "Grade 4," four weeks additional in the First Grade will be required as a condition precedent, and for every week's succeeding continuance in this low grade two weeks are added to the number of weeks to be required in the highest grade in order to secure a favorable consideration of his or her dismissal from the House. This relation of the badge (every child having a badge corresponding to its grade) to the discharge of the inmate gives it a great importance, and makes it a powerful agent constantly operating to secure carefulness and faithfulness. It has another and a very important effect: as the question of the badge is so vital to the child, each officer feels a corresponding responsibility in reference to its change. Only after careful consideration and a judicious weighing of all the circumstances of the case will an officer lower an inmate's grade. Parents and friends also, learning the rule of the House, become zealous co-operators, in their visits, encouraging their children to obtain and keep the requisite grade of honor. It is also very properly required, before considering an application for discharge, that the inmate shall have advanced to the third or fourth class in school. As in most instances we offer the only opportunity for schooling that the child will have, we consider that his or her best interests and the interests of the community demand that the rudiments of learning should be first imparted as giving the inmate a fair start in the world. It becomes sometimes a painful but imperative duty for the Managers to oppose the desire of parents to secure pecuniary returns from the labors of children who have been committed to their care, in order that they may have what would not otherwise be bestowed upon them by their selfish parents, the simplest form of education. That these badges become ordinarily significant of moral improvement, and are not simply the evidences of the ingenuity of the inmates in conforming to the rules of the House, is

shown by the statistics of the institution. While we have been pained with a few exceptions, it has generally been found that the boys whose marks are good in the shop have also the highest number of "merits" in school; and where one has passed through the different grades in school, and wears an honorable badge, he does well when discharged by indenture or to his friends. Habits of prompt obedience, of truthfulness, of diligence, which must be formed while a good grade is secured, and for weeks and months maintained, with the Divine blessing, become the permanent characteristics of the youth.

The Chaplain in his report refers to the impressiveness of the Sabbath services. To his testimony, the Managers, who in their turns attend upon them, are happy to add their own. The devotional exercises, which are largely liturgical, are attended to by the great body of children with the utmost order and reverence, and apparently to their great interest and profit. That most important part of the service, the singing, was never more satisfactorily rendered than at present. The director of our music, Miss L. Velona Stockwell, with remarkable success, has discharged the important duties of her office in a way to merit the highest commendation.

With so great an increase in the number of our inmates, crowding the schools, shops, and dormitories, and rendering the work of discipline and reformation much more difficult, the Managers are happy to be able to state that in no year has the House seemed in a more orderly, quiet, and effectual manner to accomplish its true work in redeeming, with God's blessing, its inmates. A cheerful obedience has been, with but rare exceptions, rendered; no outbreaks have disturbed the regular processes of labor and study; a marked harmony and spirit of co-operation have existed among the officers; very favorable accounts have been received from inmates that have been indentured or dis-

charged to their parents, and the prevailing moral spirit of the institution has been such as to afford to the Board of Managers great hope of its continued usefulness.' To this gratifying result, the well-directed labors, good sense and executive ability of our Superintendent, Mr. Israel C. Jones, have very largely contributed. The present state of the House, and the constantly recurring evidences of the good it is accomplishing, must be exceedingly grateful to this officer, to whose worth and ability the Managers take pleasure in thus testifying.

The Report of the Chaplain, to which attention is invited, shows the family character and influences of the discipline of the House, the powerful reforming agencies constantly at work, and the evidences of their efficiency. In his classification of the boys, as arranged in his report, it is evident that the adaptation of our system and discipline to meet their varied exigencies, is the prominent feature. This indefatigable and esteemed officer of the House continues his varied labors among our officers and inmates, with the same zeal, sound judgment, and devoted piety which have characterized him from his first connection with the institution. Not only as chaplain and pastor of this large flock does he labor on the Sabbath, but through the week he is looking into the houses of the parents, guardians, or friends of the children, and by his information thus gained with much exposure to scenes neither pleasant nor healthful, he is enabled to guide the Indenturing Committee in their decisions upon the numerous applications for discharge.

The School Reports exhibit the progress and improvement of the children in their studies, and give evidence that no efforts have been spared to give them such rudiments of education as will enable them in the future to advance themselves in further acquisitions adapted to a higher sphere of life.

Mr. T. H. Clarke, the Principal of the Boys' School, having resigned his position last August, Mr. E. H. Hallock, Assistant Superintendent, was induced to accept the vacant situation, one which he had filled with so much credit to himself and such decided benefit to the pupils for nine years previous to his appointment, in 1863, to be Assistant Superintendent. With the additional experience gained by a knowledge of the boys when engaged in labor, Mr. Hallock has resumed his former sphere of duty with alacrity, and is laboring with marked success in our now largely increased School.

Among the changes of the past year, the Managers have been obliged to part with a valued officer of many years' service. Miss Julia O'Bryan, connected with the institution since the year 1846, and the Matron of the Girls' House since 1862, was obliged to resign in October last, owing to her state of health. The many admirable qualities evinced by Miss O'Bryan in her long-continued services in the institution had endeared her to the inmates specially in her charge, and had gained the respect and esteem of the Managers. Mrs. Catharine M. Logan has been appointed in her place.

The Treasurer's Report, hereto annexed, shows that there have been received by him for the institution from the following sources, viz.:

From the State Comptroller, annual allowance toward the support of the inmates.....	\$28,000,00	
Extra appropriation for payment of the debt of 1864.....	15,000,00	\$43,000 00
From the Comptroller of the city of New York for support.....	\$8,000,00	
Donation.....	2,000,00	10,000 00
From the labor of the boys..		35,718 15
From other sources...		15,265 61
Carried forward, making a total of.....		\$103,983 76

Brought forward.....	\$103,983 76
That there have been expended for the current, expenses of the House.....	\$102,043 69
For the payment of temporary loans, interest and insurance of the buildings.....	6,532 28
	<hr/>
Total expenditures.....	108,575 97
	<hr/>
Showing a deficiency for the year of.....	<u>\$4,592 21</u>

The debt of the Society at the close of 1864, by our last Report, was shown to be \$19,074.21. This was in the shape of temporary loans,

Of which there have been repaid.....	\$3,743 07
	<hr/>
Leaving of the debt of 1864 due.....	\$15,331 14
Deficiency above shown for 1865.....	4,592 21
	<hr/>
Present debt of the Society.....	<u>\$19,923 36</u>

It will thus be seen that the debt has been increased nearly a thousand dollars beyond the amount at the close of 1864, and the Managers have only been enabled to support the large family of inmates committed to their charge under the operation of the laws of the State by using the sum appropriated for the discharge of this debt of previous years for the daily expenses of the House instead. They have done this at considerable inconvenience to themselves, temporary loans having been furnished by members of the Board, who allowed them to remain unpaid rather than embarrass the action of the Society or shut the doors of the Refuge against those who needed its reforming and elevating influences, sent thither by the courts, acting as ministers of mercy, not as the rigid dispensers of justice only. We ask the Legislature to appropriate an amount sufficient to discharge this debt at once, holding it not to be right that the State of New York should require of individuals, who, in their capacity

as Managers of this institution, are doing for the State a great public service "without fee or reward," to advance of their private funds the means necessary to carry it on

Among the events of the past year, the Managers regret to state that, of those who for many years have been actively connected with the institution, two have been removed by death. The late Thomas B. Stillman, whose recent decease has deprived the General Government of a most able and efficient public officer, was, from the year 1855 to the time of his death, an active, devoted, and useful member of the Board of Managers, whose general knowledge, practical experience, and philanthropic views were of eminent service, and always freely given to the House of Refuge. Mrs. Judith Skidmore, whose decease is mentioned in the Report of the Ladies' Committee, had been a member thereof since 1848. Her interest in the unfortunate ones of her own sex committed to our care was constantly and warmly manifested in her visits to the House, rarely intermitted during all this long period, and the judicious advice given to them in her own peculiarly kind and gentle way has, we trust, not been without the blessing of Him among whose faithful followers our deceased friend was numbered.

In compliance with the act of the Legislature passed at the last session, the Managers have been by lot arranged into three classes, whose terms of service will expire respectively in 1867, 1868, and 1869, and consecutively thereafter each class will serve during a term of three years.

In conclusion, the Managers revert with feelings of profound gratitude to God for the evidences of the usefulness of the institution afforded by the history of the past year, for the signal blessings of sound health and good order that have prevailed among the officers and inmates, and for its general prosperity. While thus grateful to Him

who alone can sustain them and reward their labors, they would humbly implore His guidance and aid in the increased responsibility and severe burden resting upon them in the very large and increasing household now under their charge.

NEW YORK, January 1, 1866.

The Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in account current with

Dr.

WALTER UNDERHILL, Treasurer.

Cr.

1865. January.	1865. January.	By Cash received from State Comptroller toward support of inmates: Annual allowance..... \$28,000 Extra appropriation..... 15,000	\$43,000 00
To Balance from old account.....	\$1,474 21	By Cash received from City Comptroller toward support of inmates: Annual allowance..... \$8,000 Extra donation..... 2,000	
To Cash paid for Insurance.....	1,855 66	By Cash received from Labor of Boys.....	10,000 00
" " Food and Provisions.....	933 55	" " Theatre and Circus Licenses.....	35,718 15
" " Salaries.....	29,486 04	" " Board of Education.....	9,422 60
" " Clothing.....	16,323 71	" " Sales of Rags, old Barrels, &c.....	5,166 94
" " Furniture and Bedding.....	19,783 62	By Balance to new account due the Treasurer.....	676 07
" " on account of Loans.....	8,015 11		
" " Fuel.....	3,743 07		
" " Building and Repairs.....	5,282 11		
" " Light.....	3,479 49		
" " Sunday School and Chapel, including a new Manual and Hymns.....	2,251 01		
" " Schools.....	1,143 94		
" " Stable.....	1,318 14		
" " Grounds and Gardens.....	940 22		
" " Freight of Goods to Randall's Island.....	661 33		
" " Hospitals.....	601 76		
" " Printing.....	535 99		
" " City Office Rent, &c.....	551 77		
" " Traveling Expenses of Chaplain visiting Children, and of Managers, &c.....	476 70		
" " Books and Stationery.....	444 10		
" " Postage and Stamps.....	167 00		
" " Ferry and Rent of Pier at One Hundred and Seventeenth street.....	125 68		
" " Contingent Expenses.....	393 11		
	52 75		
	\$110,950 18		\$110,950 18
1866. January.			
To Balance from old account due the Treasurer.....	\$6,066 42		

WALTER UNDERHILL, TREASURER.

The above account has been examined by us, compared with the vouchers, and found to be correct.

SHEPHERD KNAPP,
JAMES W. UNDERHILL, } Finance Committee.
JOHN A. WEEKS,

New York, January, 1866.

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Board of Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents :

GENTLEMEN—The Superintendent respectfully reports that, since the establishment of the Institution in 1825, the whole number of children who have been received is 10,853. The number in the House on the 1st day of January, 1865, was as follows :

White Boys.....	537	
White Girls.....	148	
Colored Boys.....	27	
Colored Girls.....	6	
	<hr/>	718

Received during the year 1865 :

White Boys.....	604	
White Girls.....	175	
Colored Boys.....	30	
Colored Girls.....	15	
	<hr/>	824
		<hr/>
		1,542

Of these were disposed of :

White Boys.....	418	
White Girls.....	152	
Colored Boys.....	24	
Colored Girls.....	9	
	<hr/>	603
		<hr/>

Leaving, on the 1st of January, 1866 :

White Boys.....	723	
White Girls.....	170	
Colored Boys.....	33	
Colored Girls.....	13	
	<hr/>	939
		<hr/>
		<hr/>

TABLE I.—*Showing the Sources whence were received 824 Children during the year 1865.*

	White Boys.	White Girls.	Colored Boys.	Colored Girls.	TOTAL.
From the New York Police.....	76	46	2	2	126
“ “ “ Sessions.....	239	22	7	2	270
“ Kings county.....	101	14	4	5	124
“ Albany “.....	41	9	1	0	51
“ Rensselaer county.....	17	7	4	1	29
“ Commissioners Pub. Char. & Cor.	23	4	5	1	33
“ Westchester county.....	17	0	1	0	18
“ Erie “.....	0	46	0	2	48
“ Queens “.....	6	0	2	0	8
“ Columbia “.....	4	0	0	1	5
“ Dutchess “.....	7	1	1	0	9
“ Genessee “.....	0	1	0	0	1
“ Oswego “.....	0	1	0	0	1
“ Richmond “.....	2	0	0	0	2
“ Ulster “.....	2	0	0	0	2
“ Chautauque “.....	0	1	0	0	1
“ Suffolk “.....	0	0	2	0	2
	535	152	29	14	730
Returned after having been given up to friends or indentured.....	69	23	1	1	94
	604	175	30	15	824

TABLE II.—*Showing the Disposition of 603 Children during the year 1865.*

	White Boys.	White Girls.	Colored Boys.	Colored Girls.	TOTAL.
Indentured to Farming.....	138	0	12	0	150
“ Housewifery.....	0	85	0	8	93
“ Clerkship.....	9	0	1	0	10
“ Shoemaking.....	6	0	0	0	6
“ Blacksmith.....	4	0	0	0	4
“ Carriage-maker.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Marble-cutter.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Plasterer.....	3	0	0	0	3
“ Carpenter.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Pocketbook-maker.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Brass-founder.....	2	0	0	0	2
“ Tailor.....	3	0	0	0	3
“ Boatman.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Wheelwright.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Undertaker.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Baker.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Roofer.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Hatter.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Photographer.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Tinsmith.....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Brushmaker.....	1	0	0	0	1
Enlisted in the Army.....	2	0	0	0	2
Discharged by the Managers.....	229	61	10	0	300
“ Writ of Habeas Corpus.....	5	5	0	0	10
Escaped.....	2	0	0	0	2
Died.....	2	2	1	0	5
	418	153	24	8	603

TABLE III.

Showing the Parentage of 730 Children received into the House during the year 1865.

American.....	90
Irish	441
German.....	96
English.....	29
African	43
French.....	6
Scotch	20
Polish.....	2
Swiss	1
Jewish	2
	<hr/> 730

TABLE IV.

Showing the Ages of 730 Children received into the House during the year 1865.

4 were 7 years old.	153 were 15 years old.
7 " 8 "	126 " 16 "
23 " 9 "	43 " 17 "
26 " 10 "	14 " 18 "
49 " 11 "	4 " 19 "
82 " 12 "	2 " 20 "
73 " 13 "	<hr/>
124 " 14 "	730

Average age, 14 years 1 month and 9 days, nearly.

TABLE V.

Showing the offenses for which 730 Children were committed during the year 1865.

Petit Larceny.....	363
Grand Larceny	12
Burglary.....	14
Vagrancy.....	320
Assault and Battery.....	9
Malicious Mischief.....	5
Arson	2
Attempt to Poison.....	1
Rape	4
Forgery	1
	<hr/> 730

TABLE VI.

Showing the Social Relations of Children received during the year 1865.

Have lost fathers.....	179
Have lost mothers.....	125
Have lost both parents.....	95
Have stepfathers.....	40
Have stepmothers.....	54
Both parents living.....	296
Parents separated.....	14
Fathers absent at the war	34
Bastard.....	1
Mother insane.....	2
Abandonment by parents.....	6
Father in prison.....	1

TABLE VII.

Showing the length of time 603 Children had been in the House, who were indentured or discharged during the year 1865.

4 were in less than 1 month.			48 were in 15 months.		
13	"	1	"	27	" 16 "
18	"	2	months.	22	" 17 "
14	"	3	"	30	" 18 "
19	"	4	"	40	" 19 "
17	"	5	"	33	" 20 "
28	"	6	"	23	" 21 "
12	"	7	"	18	" 22 "
16	"	8	"	12	" 23 "
30	"	9	"	14	" 24 "
31	"	10	"	9	" 25 "
14	"	11	"	6	" 26 "
61	"	12	"	10	" 27 "
40	"	13	"	1	was in 32 "
33	"	14	"	1	" 39 "

Average time in the House, 14 months and 17 days, nearly.

TABLE VIII.

Showing the Weekly Report of the Number of Children in the House, with the average during the year 1865.

1865.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.	1865.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
January 6.....	565	154	719	July 7.....	636	161	797
" 13.....	567	152	719	" 14.....	646	170	816
" 20.....	572	153	725	" 21.....	658	173	831
" 27.....	573	153	726	" 28.....	657	177	834
February 3.....	575	153	728	August 4.....	662	177	839
" 10.....	569	153	722	" 11.....	668	180	848
" 17.....	570	154	724	" 18.....	685	192	877
" 24.....	575	157	732	" 25.....	698	194	892
March 3.....	578	157	735	September 1.....	709	192	901
" 10.....	584	159	743	" 8.....	704	198	902
" 17.....	581	157	738	" 15.....	723	197	920
" 24.....	565	156	721	" 22.....	726	198	924
" 31.....	556	156	712	" 29.....	741	196	937
April 7.....	555	153	708	October 6.....	744	195	939
" 14.....	557	150	707	" 13.....	754	193	947
" 21.....	560	151	711	" 20.....	747	193	940
" 28.....	568	156	724	" 27.....	745	188	933
May 5.....	572	155	727	November 3.....	743	185	928
" 12.....	576	155	731	" 10.....	749	185	934
" 19.....	590	156	746	" 17.....	742	183	925
" 26.....	601	157	758	" 24.....	759	180	939
June 2.....	613	157	770	December 1.....	752	179	931
" 9.....	618	154	772	" 8.....	754	181	935
" 16.....	626	157	783	" 15.....	758	182	940
" 23.....	629	159	788	" 22.....	758	182	940
" 30.....	634	155	789	" 29.....	754	184	938

Annual average, 820.5-52.

TABLE IX.

Showing the Work done in the Female Department during the year 1865.

Dresses.....	806	Cloaks.....	10
Aprons.....	804	Curtains.....	4
Chemises.....	346	Handkerchiefs hemmed...	24
Shirts.....	1,979	Carpet-balls made.....	234
Skirts.....	304	Boys' caps.....	1,776
Sheets.....	519	Garments repaired.....	67,647
Pillow-cases.....	371	Stockings mended.....	14,867
Quilts.....	14	Pieces washed.....	162,836
Bonnets trimmed.....	134	Carpet made.....	5
Bedticks.....	216	Table-cloths.....	3
Towels.....	61	Suspenders.....	342
Stockings knit.....	2,176	Jackets.....	1,762
Mittens made.....	89	Pants made.....	3,526
Collars ".....	38		

In addition to the foregoing statistics, it is gratifying to the Superintendent to be able to report favorably of the general condition of the institution.

Although there has been a larger number of inmates than during any former year, and new subjects have been constantly arriving, the discipline has not been embarrassed, but all have yielded cheerfully to the regulations of the House.

Employment has been furnished for all except for the very small boys in the first division, who are too young for labor in the shops. Even these, however, have not been idle, for they have been kept at work during certain hours of the day at such light labors as were adapted to their age and physical powers, and were of service to the House, while the boys themselves were thus preserved from the pernicious influence of idleness.

The cash receipts from the labors of boys under contract have been for the year \$34,586.44.

The girls have continued the work of making and mending the garments and washing for the whole establishment, in addition to the labor properly belonging to their department, thus aiding in the economy and earnings of the institution, as well as deriving benefit from their experience in these important branches of industry.

A sufficient number of boys have been withheld from contract to do the domestic work of the boys' department, and a large force has continued the labor on the grounds.

By their labor, also, the quantity of arable land has been very materially increased, those portions of the grounds heretofore used as a burying-place, as well as those unfitted for cultivation by their wetness, having been leveled and properly graded; and a sea-wall has likewise been constructed on the southeast shore of our location bordering on Little Hurl-gate.

Our future operations in filling in and grading must be confined to a strip on the north side of the premises, for want of the necessary material. Could the soil be obtained in sufficient quantity, we could easily grade the salt meadow in this quarter, making a handsome field of about twenty acres—quite sufficient to yield, for the whole establishment, an abundant supply of vegetables; and at the same time affording healthful and pleasant employment for a number of inmates.

The tillable grounds have yielded well the past season, and we have been enabled to give our inmates a better and more varied diet than during any former year.

These grounds will, hereafter, afford valuable aid in the support of the establishment, and will repay all the labor bestowed in preparing them for cultivation.

The buildings outside of the walls, now used for the storing of the produce of the grounds, and for stabling the horses and cattle, are much decayed, and in a short time will be useless.

I am constrained to call the attention of the Managers to the necessity of increased accommodations for sleeping and for labor in the Boys' House, growing out of the large number of commitments to the Male Department.

It is encouraging to witness the effective working of the various departments, and to note the steady progress of improvement in the children. We have constant and continued evidences of the good results of the discipline and the instruction of the House, in the frequent visits of former inmates, in the numerous and interesting letters from children who have been indentured or discharged, and from their masters and friends, as well as in the favorable changes apparent in the character and habits of those still under the care of the institution.

The sanitary condition of the House is fully set forth in the Physician's Report. For the favorable character of this report the institution, under God, is indebted to the skill and attentions of its faithful and intelligent Physician.

The Teachers' reports give a detailed statement of the condition of the schools. Laboring under many disadvantages, and with crowded classes, the teachers have devoted themselves to their work with commendable zeal and energy, and a decided improvement in the schools is apparent.

The Chaplain's Report gives full information of the moral and religious condition of the House. The regular morning service in the Chapel, and the Sunday-school in the afternoon, have been held every Sabbath during the year; besides these religious opportunities, a weekly evening service for the special benefit of the officers and teachers, and a Bible class, have been held. The moral and religious influences thrown around the inmates as well as the officers, are producing the most happy results.

It affords me peculiar pleasure to report the faithfulness of the officers during the past year, in their devotion to the interests of the House, and the energy and zeal displayed in the performance of their duties.

Excluded from their friends and from the enjoyments of social life as they necessarily are, they have labored cheerfully in their respective spheres, and whatever progress has been made in reclaiming these wayward and hitherto much-neglected youth is to be mainly attributed to their efforts.

In conclusion, permit me to express to the Board of Managers and to the several Committees my sincere thanks for their uniform kindness to me during the period it has been my privilege to be in their service.

Respectfully submitted,

ISRAEL C. JONES,

Superintendent.

RANDALL'S ISLAND, HOUSE OF REFUGE, Jan. 1, 1866.

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN.

To the Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders :

GENTLEMEN—The Chaplain called attention, in his previous report, to some of the misapprehensions existing in the community in reference to the discipline of the House of Refuge, as to its being penal rather than reformatory, thus embittering the feelings of the parents of the children, and fastening the taint of the prison upon the inmates. You have distinctly and often affirmed, what every visitor at once discovers, that all our inmates, whatever may have been their offenses, are forgiven by the authority intrusted with the courts, on account of their youth, and are placed under the training of the Refuge, in industry, in school, and in morals and piety, that they may be reformed and returned, not liberated felons, but wholesome and promising youths capable of acting well their parts in society. The history of forty years, both recorded in your annals and unrecorded, shows how effectually this blessed work has been done. The most interesting paragraphs, in the selections annually made from the daily register, are those announcing the visits of former inmates now grown to maturity, and filling respectable positions in society with credit to themselves and honor to the Refuge that opened its arms to them in the hour of their temptation.

There is another misapprehension manifest in the community, sometimes even seeking expression in the public prints, destroying both the confidence of parents and of the general public in the ability of the institution to accomplish its work. Its immense capacity, and the large numbers gathered within its walls, are supposed to peril its reformatory discipline, and to render it a school of vice rather than of morals. As a question of fact, the carefully accumulated statistics of nearly half a century give a most satisfactory answer to this erroneous judgment.

The home is, without doubt, the divinely appointed school for the training of children, but even from good homes prodigal sons and daughters have gone astray. Not a few of our inmates, as you well know, have been sent at the instance of Christian parents, overwhelmed with grief at the sad occasion separating the family circle, but grateful for the shelter from temptation, and for the wholesome instruction bestowed upon them at the Refuge.

Good homes in the country offer the next to the best provision for tempted children. Comparatively few, however, are the homes where children are really adopted into the family circle, and receive such a training and education as their years and wants demand. They are received simply for their services, and for these chiefly because they can be secured at so cheap a rate.

Where parents are respectable and capable of caring for the child, they properly desire to resume his custody when he has so far reformed as to be able to stand up against temptation. The most of those that reach us are in no condition when they come to be placed in a family as a child or as a servant. They need schooling ; they need a habit of industry ; and, above all, they need an awakened conscience, that they may become a law unto themselves.

If, then, they must be disciplined awhile, it is naturally argued that an institution broken up into small families, and conducted as nearly as possible like an ordinary family, is best adapted to accomplish the work of reformation. This opinion is not to be questioned. The experiment has been tried in Europe and in the United States with great success. It would be a most desirable addition to the facilities now enjoyed by our institution, if the Legislature or a generous public would grant your Board the comparatively small amount necessary to purchase a farm and the inexpensive buildings requisite to permit the detailing of companies or families of children from time to time to work upon it, under wise and kind supervision. No additional expense for its management and superintendency than could be afforded by your Board and the officers of the institution would be required.

But it will be seen at once that no family institution could receive all the boys that crowd the halls of the Refuge. Although it has reduced its average of detention much below other institutions of the kind, yet, with its large capacity, it scarcely keeps up with the requisitions of the courts, and still there are thousands of juvenile offenders and periled children left in the streets. Family institutions cannot be multiplied with sufficient rapidity to meet the wants of a community like ours.

Whatever may be the plan of organization, the institution is simply a means, not an end. During as limited a period as possible, the great work to be done is to awaken the moral sense of the child, that he may be able to take the care of himself in ordinary society, and in the prosecution of the real business of life. Every thoughtful man can see that the work of reformation is secured not so much by institutions as by the molding influence of a strong pure mind over a weak and tempted one. Good officers in an institution with poor accommodations will accomplish more than poor officers in the best institutions.

In reasoning upon the comparative merits of reformatory schools, the friends of each are apt to distrust the success of the other. In considering the adaptations of the family system to the age and condition of young offenders, intelligent persons are sometimes disposed to overlook and disparage what we personally know to be the constant influence for good, under God's blessing, of the House of Refuge.

Let us recollect what is the weight of the moral influence we are enabled to exert over our inmates. In our city, from the same class of children, the Mission Sunday-schools are collected. The pupils of these schools are under wholesome tuition but a few hours upon the Sabbath, and are exposed all the rest of the time to the most baneful examples and severe temptations ; yet it is confidently affirmed and unquestioned that a vast amount

of good is accomplished. But all this we have every Sabbath, with constant attendance, and, in addition to this, the impressive services of the Chapel, adapted to their age and wants; the morning and evening prayer, the blessing at the meal, the often religious address; the personal contact of Christian men and women; the regular hours of study, the absence of the temptations continually drawing them aside when in the streets—and all this continued for the period of a year or more. If anything is accomplished in the Sunday-schools, how much more, with God's blessing, must result from this daily moral and religious discipline.

Intelligent men speak unadvisedly when they give utterance to distrust in reference to the influence of the Refuge, as some have frankly, and with much emotion, acknowledged when on the Sabbath they have united with us in the services of public worship, or have become familiar, by personal inspection, with our daily discipline.

With our large numbers we secure much of the character of a family institution by our many subdivisions. Walls divide us into four companies and schools still further separate us into thirteen or fourteen classes, under different teachers; so that the powerful influence of personal character is brought to bear upon the individual child. The affectionate recollections which the children preserve for years, of their teachers and officers, manifested in a continued correspondence, shows how powerful for good this influence is.

It is instructive to consider the character of the boys, and the occasions of their commitment to the Refuge.

First. There is a comparatively small proportion of mature and hard boys. They have been familiar with criminal courses from their youth; with little education, except that which is the worst of all, and is obtained in the streets, with habits of indolence, of vice, and of crime. This is far from being a hopeful class; their age, their habits, confirmed by several years of wrong-doing, render the prospect of reformation less encouraging in their case. It is not a matter of wonder that some of these are found, after leaving the Refuge, in the penitentiary and prison. But the number of such instances is few. The regular life, the constant work, the training of the schools, and the religious teaching of the institution are not without their legitimate effects. There have been many instances of remarkable reformations, confirmed by years of well-doing, in this class of boys; but the hour of trial comes when they return to society again. Their old appetites are once more aroused, and their old companions renew their temptations. Farm life is too monotonous for such persons, brought up in the excitements of the city; if placed upon farms, they will often run away.

For this class, how admirably adapted to meet the pressing exigencies of the case would be a ship reformatory. If your Board had under its supervision a vessel of suitable dimensions, how many of these hale, daring boys, well trained for their business, and adapted to wrestle with the perils of the sea, would find in the mercantile navy of our country a fine field for their excitable temperaments, and such a removal from their former courses of

life as would greatly tend to secure their permanent reformation. Your Board has been informed, from time to time, of the honestly earned promotion of many of our former inmates in the United States naval service, and of numbers, now officers in command of merchant ships, who have chosen to plow the seas rather than the land. The experiment is not a new one. Wherever tried, it has proved a success ; and no city, certainly in our country, could offer a better class of boys for the discipline of the training ship, or a better field of employment hereafter than New York.

A considerable number of this class might not be adapted physically or by a natural taste for the sea. What can be done to secure the salvation of these upon the land? The community has a practical interest in the answer to this question, not merely on account of the loss of the boys themselves, but from the great tax which a criminal life always imposes upon the public. If an additional wing to our buildings, that would accommodate one hundred of this class, could be erected, where the boys could remain until well instructed in some good trade, and perhaps be permitted to receive, when discharged, a portion of their earnings, the probabilities of their entire reformation, and of their becoming useful members of society, would be greatly increased.

Second. Another class of boys, forming a considerable portion of those sent to the Refuge, have quite respectable parents, have had some training in school, have attended church and Sunday-school, but have fallen into bad company, and been tempted to truancy and the commission of theft. This is the peculiarly hopeful field for the discipline of the Refuge. Many of these parents heartily co-operate with us. The religious instructions of the House awaken their convictions, and the absence of temptation affords an opportunity for better principles and feelings to obtain an ascendancy. The months spent at the Refuge make a powerful impression upon the mind, and break up the evil companionship that betrayed them. These boys can be sent into the country with a good prospect of their doing well, or be returned to their friends when suitable provision is made to continue the industrious and moral habits that have been formed. The proportion of those of this class who do well when returned to their friends in the city and vicinity is much larger than might at first be supposed. The good work that has been accomplished, the requisition upon friends to find a suitable place of labor, the visits to their homes of the Chaplain, and the interest awakened in their behalf in the mind of the minister whose religious services they propose to attend serve to secure watchfulness on the part of both the friends and the boy himself. Comparatively few of these are returned again to the institution. Many now members of churches, reputable mechanics and merchants, revisit the institution to render their thanks for the good it has done them, and to express their affectionate remembrance of its officers.

Third. The third and very large class of children embraces those without proper parental care or homes—orphans, or worse, with intemperate or criminal parents. Many of these are fair-faced and soft-hearted little boys. They are entirely without education ; have had no religious instruction ;

have been in the habit of petty larceny, without any sense of guilt, and very little shame or fear upon its discovery. This class affords much good material to work upon. The institution takes the place of father and mother to them, and many boys have no recollection of care or kindness until they felt it here. Here are to be found the little farmers that stock so largely the adjoining counties in our own and in the neighboring States. After from twelve to twenty months of training, they are chosen, one after another, by well-recommended farmers, to be brought up in the healthy cultivation of the land, and in the enjoyment of the common advantages of the country school and church. Hundreds remain until the expiration of their minority, and settle down afterward in comfortable homes near the scenes of their labors. Many leave the parties to whom they were indentured, and find other employment and employers where the remuneration can be secured at once and in larger sums.

Our daily experience convinces us that the simple announcement that a boy has run away from his place is far from being a moral death-warrant. After a few years these boys report themselves in person. The life of the farm was too slow for them, and the sea, mechanical or mercantile life has offered the field best adapted to their tastes.

The Chaplain was looking over a volume just from the press, and bearing the imprint of the Refuge, while riding in the city cars. A stout, well-dressed man, apparently about forty years of age, with an intelligent face and pleasant address, glancing his eye upon the page, inquired of the Chaplain if he was connected with the Refuge. Upon being assured that he was, the gentleman remarked that he was an inmate of it about thirty-three years since. He was a little boy at that time, had fallen into bad company, and would probably have been lost if the Refuge had not received him. He was indentured to a family in Norwalk, but after a few years ran away and went to sea. When he returned, however, he visited his home in Norwalk, and was beloved by the family as if he had been their own son. He often visited them, and had just returned to the city from a call upon them. He had risen from the lowest to the highest position in the ship, and had been both shipmaster and shipowner in the China trade. He preserved a very grateful recollection of the Refuge as it stood upon Madison square at the time he was an inmate.

Fourth. A small and difficult class to redeem is composed of those somewhat deficient in intellect, but the subjects of strong animal appetites; and, also, of children that seem to lack moral sensibility, or to exhibit an almost insane tendency to some form of crime, such as stealing. Some very amiable and well-endowed children, who have acquired considerable education, seem to be the almost helpless subjects of temptation, and are sources of inexpressible grief and anxiety to their parents.

These find safety and defense from temptation in the Refuge. The weak moral powers are developed, and conscience is made to assume a more commanding presence amid the strong and perverted appetites. Very encouraging success has been attained in several instances; and, in the most express-

ive manner, parents have signified their gratitude to the Managers and officers of the institution for their interposition in behalf of their unfortunate and unhappy children.

How large is the number of the children of these classes in our city, the long roll of the Refuge fails to exhibit. Our streets are full of them. But a small proportion of the juvenile offenders are arrested until their crimes have been often repeated, and multitudes are discharged to their friends wherever a slight effort is made to shelter them from the punishment attached to a petty crime. Thus, finding impunity in wrong-doing, they go on boldly in their crimes until their career is arrested by the penitentiary or prison. The statistics of juvenile arrests are startling, and it is well worthy the consideration of the Managers of the Society whether any other measures can be adopted to correct the growing evils of truancy, vagrancy, street-stealing, the drinking-saloon, especially in relation to the girls that wait upon the visitors, and of the low theatres, infested by children who invest, in their depraving lessons, the results of their petty thefts. Adult crime will increase in a rapid ratio as long as these prolific schools of iniquity are permitted to train up their inmates to certain ruin.

The work of reformation among the girls has gone on with much the same results as heretofore. The younger girls, indentured in good families in the country, with very few exceptions, do well and remain in their places. Not so large a proportion of the older girls remain firm in their new principle at first, upon their discharge from the House.

We have had, however, reason to know that, even when the instructions received here seem to be forgotten, all is not lost. A conscience has been developed, and the unhappy girl discovers that sin cannot be pursued without awakening a bitter pang in the heart. After the experiment of wrong-doing, and the personal discovery that the way of the transgressor is hard, many that have strayed return to the paths of virtue and piety.

The religious condition of the Refuge has been hopeful throughout the year. The Sabbath services have been unremitted, and the numerous public occasions for thanksgiving and prayer have been duly honored in our chapel. The interest of our public worship, on the part of the children, has increased, and the service of song, in which all engage, was never offered with greater propriety or earnestness. The Chaplain cannot fail to express his appreciation of the indefatigable efforts and marked success of the teacher and leader of our music, Miss Stockwell, in administering so much to the interest and profit of our Sabbath devotions.

Delightful evidences of the permanent character of the religious impressions received at the Refuge are constantly reaching us. The letters, from both children and masters, appended to the Report of the Superintendent, confirm this. One letter, received during the year, is so interesting in itself, and so much to the point, that the Chaplain introduces it as an illustration of the permanency of the religious impressions received at the Refuge. It is dated January 2, 1865, and says: "J—— T—— remained with me until August, 1861. During the time he lived with me he felt very much

at home, was industrious and honest, and attended Sabbath-school and church regularly. During the last six months he was with us he improved very much. The religious instructions he had received were manifestly having a good effect. In August, 1861, he enlisted, with my consent, in the Forty-second Illinois Volunteers. I felt some fears that the temptations of camp life would be too much for him to withstand, but he conducted himself nobly on the field and won the confidence of his officers. We kept up a correspondence with him. His letters grew more and more interesting, and showed a radical change wrought in him. He expressed the strongest attachment to the family; called up things that were done that were wrong, and begged our forgiveness. After the battle of Chickamauga I received a letter from a member of the Christian Commission, informing me that J—— was severely wounded, and expressing a very favorable opinion in regard to his Christian experience. He lay seven days upon the battlefield before he was brought in and cared for. I afterward had an interview with a Christian companion of his who was with him in the closing scene. In relating his conversation with him, he said he asked him this question: 'Did you not suffer terribly while you lay upon the battlefield?' 'Suffer,' he answered, 'how could I suffer when Jesus was with me?' We feel that he has left us a rich legacy in this simple expression, abundantly repaying us for all our anxiety, care, and trouble in his behalf. He died January 23, 1864."

The religious services among the officers are still sustained and largely attended. Probably no institution of the kind in the world presents this inviting feature in so permanent a form—a voluntary, weekly spiritual gathering, in which to inspire mutual faithfulness in the great work upon which we have entered, to secure the indispensable blessing of God upon our endeavors.

The same happy correspondence of effort subsists between the officers and Chaplain; and if the latter has not accomplished all he might in his enviable but responsible office, it has not been for lack of a hearty co-operation on the part of the Superintendent and his assistants.

The same faithful gentlemen have given their constant attendance and instructions in the Sunday-schools, and still hold the love and respect of their classes, and the gratitude of all interested in the management of the institution. Mr. Decker, from Harlem, and Mr. McKay, from Brooklyn, and others, have rendered valuable services upon the Sabbath, and the former has given pleasant addresses upon other occasions. They have a richer reward than we can offer, but our sincere thanks are proffered to them.

The Bible Society has, with great readiness, supplied our large demand for Bibles and Testaments. The latter have been distributed among the inmates only when personally sought. Hundreds of copies have been given in answer to particular requests, especially urged, when, as in several instances, there has been marked religious interest awakened among the children.

The American Tract Society, both of New York and Boston, and the Methodist Sunday-School Union have placed us under obligation by large contributions of papers, books, and tracts.

In submitting to your Board his assurance that, in a very large measure, so far as he can form a correct judgment, the institution under your care is working out the blessed results that you so much desire, and is a great power for good in this city and State, the Chaplain begs leave to thank you for personal attentions, and to remain,

Respectfully, yours,

BRADFORD K. PEIRCE.

RANDALL'S ISLAND, January 1, 1866.

REPORT OF PHYSICIAN.

To the Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents :

GENTLEMEN—The undersigned respectfully reports that the number of children in the Refuge is 939. The average census has been 820. The whole number of inmates during the year is 1,542. The number of patients treated in the hospital is 235.

The prominent diseases have been dysentery, pneumonia, consumption, and a few cases of fever. The deaths have been five in number, as follows : A——— H———, colored, aged 18 years, of consumption. M——— L———, aged 11 years, of consumption. F——— S———, aged 15 years, of pluro-pneumonia. E——— B———, aged 16 years, of hydrocephalus ; and W——— D———, aged 14 years, of typhoid fever.

There have been no epidemic or contagious diseases in the House, excepting one case of varioloid, which was transferred to Blackwell's Island on the 17th of October.

The large number of children now in the institution more than exhausts the capacity of the House comfortably to accommodate its inmates. The dormitories are crowded. Should there be any considerable increase in the number of inmates, it will become necessary to provide additional sleeping accommodations for the boys.

The deleterious effect of crowding upon the health of the children cannot be overstated. The food and clothing required for any number may be furnished, and all other wants be duly supplied, but air cannot be measured to them beyond the space allowed for it in the rooms allotted to labor, study, and rest.

To the constant and careful attention given to all the details of the management of the institution, and the admirable skill exhibited by the Steward in preparing and serving the food, so important in a sanitary point of view, may be attributed the credit, to an important degree, of the very favorable report it is my privilege to present.

I desire to acknowledge the cordial and efficient co-operation of the Superintendent and officers of the House in all measures instituted to secure the physical welfare of the children.

HENRY N. WHITTELSEY, M.D.

RANDALL'S ISLAND, January 1, 1866.

REPORT OF LADIES' COMMITTEE.

THE Ladies' Committee of the House of Refuge would respectfully tender their accustomed Annual Report, which, in consequence of the protracted sickness and death of our beloved First Directress, has caused sadness in our midst; still, we rejoice to testify that her anxieties for this institution were still expressed in the midst of her sufferings. Mrs. J. Skidmore had been on this Committee for seventeen years, faithfully performing her part in the various duties of her position. She was eminently successful in gaining access to the hearts of the girls; and we trust many may remember her advice and kind admonitions with great profit to themselves in the future.

The duties connected with visiting the past year have devolved, more than usual, on but a few members of our Committee, who report the institution in its usual healthful condition; order and improvement visible in every department. Many are here rescued and saved from vice and infamy, and by a course of judicious instruction and training, prepared for usefulness and happiness.

Very respectfully,

SARAH B. BROWN,

Secretary.

HOUSE OF REFUGE, December 31, 1865.

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

To the Board of Managers:

GENTLEMEN—The following additions have been made to the Officers' Library during the past year :

Through the kind offices of Hon. E. Ward, Representative to Congress from New York city, and Hon. C. T. Hulburd, member of Congress, St. Lawrence county, we have received :

The President's Message and accompanying Documents for 1864...	3 vols.
United States Coast Survey.....	1 “
President's Message and Documents for 1865.....	3 “
Report of the Committee on the Conduct of the War.....	3 “

The Managers have added to the Library by purchase of books of :

Travels.....	1 vol.
Ecclesiastical History.....	1 “
General “	1 “
Philosophical “	1 “
International Law.....	1 “
General Literature.....	5 “

There are now one thousand volumes in the Library, the most of them in a good condition. These volumes have been judiciously selected to meet the variety of tastes among those for whom they are provided. They embrace many valuable works of reference, substantial histories, volumes upon the sciences, and a large collection of the best authors of fiction and poetry.

In addition to the bound volumes, the Library has been provided with weekly numbers of Littell's “Living Age,” the monthly issues of the “Hours at Home,” Atlantic and Blackwood's Magazines, and the regular numbers of the Princeton and Methodist Quarterlies.

Through the generosity of the publishers and of friends to the institution, the Library has received copies of the “New York Observer,” “Christian Advocate and Journal,” “The Methodist,” “The Inquirer,” “The Congregationalist,” “The Temperance Union,” “Monthly Record of Five Points,” “A Voice from the Old Brewery,” “Reformatory and Refuge Journal” (England), and “Freedman's Journal.”

To the Library of the schools an addition of fifty-four volumes was made at Christmas. These Libraries now contain :

Boys' Library.....	1,345 vols.
Girls' “	930 “

Eighty copies of the "Youth's Companion" have been purchased for the use of the schools. The Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school Union has sent 500 semi-monthly copies of the "Sunday-school Advocate," and 100 copies of "Good News," and the American Tract Society 100 copies of the "American Messenger," and 125 of "The Child's Paper" during the year—valuable and profitable gifts, which have been gratefully received and read with avidity.

All the religious papers, after having passed the reading of the officers, have been distributed among the boys, and it is quite affecting to observe with what eagerness they are welcomed and perused. The papers pass from one hand to another until they are literally *read up*. The hours of recreation on the Sabbath are those in which the religious sheet is particularly desired, and the Chaplain has, from time to time, obtained tracts and small volumes from the Tract Societies for distribution at such times.

Respectfully submitted,

B. K. PEIRCE,
Librarian.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Board of Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents :

GENTLEMEN—The following statistics comprise the Report of the Boys' School in this institution for the year ending December 31, 1865 :

Number of boys under instruction at the commencement of the year.....	564
Received during the year.....	634
<hr/>	
Whole number taught.....	1,198

Of the 634 boys received into the School, 334 entered the First Division, and 300 the Second Division.

CLASSIFICATION IN READING.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
Commenced the Alphabet.....	30	18
“ “ Primer.....	122	70
“ “ 1st Reader.....	76	60
“ “ 2d “	49	68
“ “ 3d “	34	39
“ “ 4th “	23	45
	<hr/> 334	<hr/> 300

IN ARITHMETIC.

Commenced in Addition.....	229	149
“ “ Subtraction.....	30	38
“ “ Multiplication.....	18	30
“ “ Division.....	34	39
“ “ Denominate Numbers...	19	38
“ “ Fractions.....	4	6
	<hr/> 334	<hr/> 300

Promotions during the year :

IN READING.

To 1st Reader.....	140	121
“ 2d “	124	148
“ 3d “	128	146
“ 4th “	82	118

IN ARITHMETIC.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
To Subtraction.....	124	143
“ Multiplication.....	118	138
“ Division.....	128	136
“ Denominate Numbers.....	51	113
“ Fractions.....	65	94
“ Decimals.....	20	68
“ Interest.....	15	53
“ Miscellaneous Arithmetic.....	12	32

There are now 756 boys in the School, 369 in the First Division, and 387 in the Second Division.

Their present standing is as follows .

READING.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
Alphabet.....	5	1
Primer.....	59	39
1st Reader.....	78	24
2d “.....	70	90
3d “.....	68	88
4th “.....	89	145
	— 369	— 387

ARITHMETIC.

Addition.....	142	64
Subtraction.....	35	45
Multiplication.....	35	45
Division.....	68	88
Compound Numbers.....	54	73
Fractions.....	25	52
Interest.....	0	20
Discount.....	10	0
	— 369	— 387

WRITING.

Writing on Slates.....	64	64
“ “ Paper.....	305	323
	— 369	— 387
Geography.....	157	233
Intellectual Arithmetic.....	157	233

There have been discharged from the institution during the past year 442 boys, 241 from 1st Division and 201 from 2d Division.

Their standing, when discharged, was as follows :

IN READING.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
1st Reader.....	40	16
2d “.....	64	43
3d “.....	59	43
4th “.....	78	99
	— 241	— 201

IN ARITHMETIC.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
Addition.....	40	16
Subtraction.....	30	20
Multiplication.....	34	23
Division.....	59	43
Denominate Numbers.....	28	47
Fractions.....	43	39
Interest.....	5	10
Miscellaneous Arithmetic.....	2	3
	— 241	— 201

IN WRITING.

Could write words.....	64	43
“ “ legibly.....	29	43
“ “ well.....	78	99

Of the 634 boys received into the School during the past year, 562 remain, 288 in 1st Division, 274 in 2d Division. The following table will indicate the time they spent in school previous to entering the institution; also their classification in reading and arithmetic when they entered, together with their present standing in those branches.

TIME FOR SCHOOL.		No School.	Less than 6 months.	Over 6 months, less than 1 year.	Over 1 year, less than 2 years.	Over 2 years, less than 3 years.	Regularly from 3 to 4 years.	Total.
Number {	First Division.....	58	71	46	45	29	39	288
	Second Division.....	64	25	47	43	46	49	276
CLASSIFICATION IN READING.		Alphabet.	Primer.	1st Reader.	2d Reader.	3d Reader.	4th Reader.	Total.
On Entering, First Division.....		28	104	65	41	32	18	288
Present Standing, First Division...		5	59	73	51	46	54	288
On Entering, Second Division.....		16	64	54	62	37	41	274
Present Standing, Second Division,		1	39	20	61	66	87	274
CLASSIFICATION IN ARITHMETIC.		Addition.	Subtraction.	Multiplication.	Division.	Denominate Numbers.	Miscellaneous Arithmetic.	Total.
On Entering, First Division.....		197	21	20	32	12	6	288
Present Standing, First Division...		137	25	26	46	24	30	288
On Entering, Second Division.....		134	32	30	37	21	20	274
Present Standing, Second Division,		60	30	31	66	43	44	274

An item in the gathered statistics of the year attracts our attention. Eleven hundred and ninety-eight boys have been taught in our School, receiving, at the hands of its instructor, that teaching and discipline, that nurturing and molding of character, which will exert its influence upon them during their whole future career.

The thought of this is startling; and it should awaken anew the responsibility of the living teacher, more especially in the dawn of a new morning in our Republic, when children demand a strong, thorough, truthful, and religious education.

Were my predecessor, Mr. Clarke, here to make his usual annual report, he would, doubtless, give you many interesting facts concerning the progress of the pupils during the year; but as I have so recently resumed the duties of my former position I shall speak only of the present state of the School and its wants.

At present we are laboring under great disadvantages, owing to the crowded condition of the class-rooms, which renders the teaching and discipline less effective than they might otherwise be. It is a matter of experience that in our reformatory efforts there is no more effectual way of securing the great end we seek than by bringing the subjects of our care directly in contact with a living teacher.

In view of this important principle I cannot too strongly recommend that the unoccupied space in our school-rooms be at once furnished with desks, and that additional teachers be employed to relieve the burdened classes, and thus bring the teachers nearer their pupils. The seat of our work is in the heart. Each child presents a different problem of strange perversity, of weakness and ignorance, and each must be addressed as its peculiar wants require; each must have individual management, encouragement for good conduct, pain for bad, instruction for doubts, tenderness for weakness, care for bad habits, and religious counsel for peculiar wants. As we are now situated, teaching is addressed to the mass rather than to individuals, and as a result, while we are laboring, evil is intensified in the hearts of *some* who are not and *will* not be instructed unless they are personally addressed. As a general thing, when new teachers are employed, they have very little experience in large schools, and still less in the peculiar kind of work to be done in a reformatory; and therefore the time of your Principal is taken up, not only with the general management of the School, but in rendering such assistance to the teachers as to make their labors effective, thus almost entirely excluding him from direct contact with the pupils. In a former Report I spoke of the necessity that some arrangement be made to improve our inmates in vocal music, as its influence for good was undoubted. Improvements have been made from time to time, and its highly beneficial and elevating influence has been apparent. The energy and practical ability of our present Conductor settles the question that in vocal music we have one of the most effective elements of reform.

I desire to express my gratitude to my associate teachers for the kind manner in which they have seconded my efforts to promote the interests of the School. The City Superintendents, Messrs. Kiddle, Jones, and Calkin, have once visited our School. We enter the new year with the hope that, by the blessing of Him who hitherto hath sustained us, we may meet your approval and subserve the highest interests of the institution.

Very respectfully submitted,

E. H. HALLOCK,

Assistant Superintendent, and Principal of Schools.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To the Board of Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents :

GENTLEMEN—The whole number of girls under instruction at the commencement of the year was..... 147

There have been received during the year..... 192

Whole number under instruction during the year..... 339

Of the 192 girls received into the School during the year, admitted into the First Division, 102 ; Second Division, 90.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
Of these, did not know the Alphabet.....	12	7
Could spell easy words.....	27	26
Commenced with 1st Reader.....	15	7
“ “ 2d “	27	18
“ “ 3d “	12	20
“ “ 4th “	9	12
	— 102	— 90

IN ARITHMETIC.

Commenced with Addition.....	81	58
“ “ Subtraction.....	9	6
“ “ Multiplication.....	4	14
“ “ Division.....	8	12
	— 102	— 90

There are now in the School 183 girls , First Division, 88 ; Second Division, 95.

Attainments as follows :

IN READING.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
In 1st Reader.....	22	17
“ 2d “	25	14
“ 3d “	15	26
“ 4th “	26	38
	— 88	— 95

IN ARITHMETIC.

In Notation and Numeration.....	25	18
“ Addition.....	27	20
“ Subtraction.....	8	10
“ Multiplication.....	11	14
“ Division.....	5	23
“ Denominate Numbers.....	8	8
“ Fractions.....	4	2
	— 88	— 95

Promotions during the year :

IN READING.		1st Division.	2d Division.
To 1st Reader.....		24	19
“ 2d “		36	25
“ 3d “		40	34
“ 4th “		33	24
		—	—

IN ARITHMETIC.			
To Addition.....		25	31
“ Subtraction.....		14	36
“ Multiplication.....		14	23
“ Division.....		21	37
“ Denominate Numbers.....		9	22
“ Fractions.....		12	6
		—	—

The attainments in reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography of 156 girls who have been discharged from the School during the year: from the First Division, 80; Second Division, 76.

IN READING.		1st Division.	2d Division.
In 1st Reader.....		10	4
“ 2d “		11	9
“ 3d “		22	24
“ 4th “		37	39
		— 80	— 76

IN ARITHMETIC.			
In Addition.....		21	11
“ Subtraction.....		16	12
“ Multiplication.....		18	21
“ Division.....		16	24
“ Denominate Numbers.....		4	4
“ Fractions.....		5	4
		— 80	— 76

IN WRITING.			
Could make words.....		15	7
“ write legibly.....		19	13
“ “ well.....		46	56
		— 80	— 76

IN MENTAL ARITHMETIC.			
Had finished three chapters.....		6	20
“ “ four “		15	11
“ not studied it.....		59	45
		— 80	— 76

IN GEOGRAPHY.

	1st Division.	2d Division.
As far as North America.....	20	18
“ “ United States.....	28	37
“ “ Mexico.....	0	0
“ “ Europe.....	5	7
Had not studied it.....	27	14
	— 80	— 76

Of the girls now in the School there are :

Writing on slates.....	36	5
“ on paper.....	52	90
Studying Mental Arithmetic.....	14	32
“ Geography.....	29	42

During the year 102 girls have entered the First Division ; of that number 76 remain.

The following table will show how much time they have spent in school previous to coming to the Refuge ; also their classification in reading and arithmetic when they entered, together with their present standing in those branches :

TIME.	None.	Less than 6 months.	Over 1 year, and less than 2 years.	Over 2 years, and less than 3 years.	From 3 to 4 years.	Total.
For School.....	23	20	12	16	5	76
CLASSIFICATION IN READING.	Alphabet and Easy Words	1st Reader.	2d Reader.	3d Reader.	4th Reader.	Total.
Entering	34	15	11	10	6	76
Present Standing.....	7	9	21	14	25	76
CLASSIFICATION IN ARITHMETIC.	Addition.	Subtraction.	Multiplication.	Division.	Denominate Numbers.	Total.
On Entering.....	63	5	3	4	1	76
Present Standing.....	40	8	11	5	12	76

Of these 76 girls, 21 had attended Ward Schools in this city, 3 in Brooklyn, 13 in Buffalo, 3 in Troy, 3 in Albany, 5 in country schools, while 23 had never attended any school.

During the year, 90 girls have entered the Second Division ; of that number 72 remain.

The following table will show how much time they spent in school previous to coming to the Refuge ; also their classification in reading and arithmetic when they entered, together with their present standing in those branches.

TIME.	None.	Less than 6 months.	Over 1 year, and less than 2 years.	Over 2 years, and less than 3 years.	From 3 to 4 years	Tot'l.
For School.....	10	13	18	17	14	72
CLASSIFICATION IN READING.	Alphabet and Easy Words.	1st Reader.	2d Reader.	3d Reader.	4th Reader.	Total.
On Entering.....	30	15	13	6	8	72
Present Standing.....	6	11	13	15	27	72
CLASSIFICATION IN ARITHMETIC.	Addition.	Subtraction.	Multiplication.	Division.	Denominate Numbers.	Total.
On Entering.....	30	6	24	12	0	72
Present Standing.....	20	17	10	17	8	72

Of these 72 girls, 29 had attended Ward Schools in this city, 3 in Brooklyn, 10 in Buffalo, 3 in Troy, 2 in Albany, 3 in country schools, 12 in various other schools, while 10 had never attended school.

Moral and mental condition of the 102 girls who have entered the First Division : 13 say they never attended any Sabbath-school, 50 that they never learned a verse in the Bible, 23 that they never attended any day-school.

Of the 90 girls admitted into the Second Division during the year, 15 say that they never attended Sabbath-school, 48 that they never learned a verse in the Bible, 10 that they never attended any day-school.

Respectfully,

CARRIE S. MONFORT,

Principal.

RANDALL'S ISLAND, December 31, 1865.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DAILY JOURNAL.

January 2, 1865.

This day was observed as a holiday, it being the first secular day of the new year, and the work throughout the House was suspended.

The girls and boys indulged in their sports, and in discussing the good things provided by the Managers, and all passed off pleasantly, and without accident. Several of the former inmates visited the House, and gave good accounts of themselves.

We commence the new year with 718 children (564 boys and 154 girls), distributed as follows, viz. : 257 white and 14 colored boys in the First Division ; 280 white and 13 colored in the Second ; 69 white girls in the First Division, and 79 white and 1 colored in the Second.

January 4.

James M. Talcott, Esq., Superintendent of the Providence Reform School, visited the House, and remained during the night.

January 5.

Walter J——, a former inmate, visited, accompanied by one of his ship-mates. Shortly after he left the House he enlisted in the navy, and has been with Admiral Farragut in all of his brilliant achievements. In the engagement with the enemy in Mobile Bay he was severely wounded, and taken up for dead ; all of his gun's crew were killed outright by a single shot, except himself, and he badly wounded, and made a cripple for life. He is full of hope and spirits, and has full confidence in the success of our cause. He is a brave young man, and deserves well of his country.

Jeremiah B—— also called to see us. He has just returned a paroled prisoner from the Andersonville prison. He is now hearty and strong, and ready to resume the fight when he is regularly exchanged.

Three new subjects were received to-day, and one boy discharged.

January 7.

Richard C——, who has nearly completed his apprenticeship, called to-day. He is on a short visit to his friends, the first visit he has enjoyed with them for several years. Richard has grown to be a fine young man, and has given entire satisfaction to his master.

January 16.

S. S. Wood, Esq., Superintendent of the Western House of Refuge at Rochester, accompanied by Dr. Nelson, of this city, visited the House this morning.

January 17.

Gilbert M—— called this afternoon. He is now engaged in business in the city, and doing well. He is married and has a small family; both he and his wife are members of one of our city churches, and are very interesting young people.

The Grand Jury of the city and county of New York visited and inspected the House this morning.

January 20.

Miss Underhill and Mrs. Roberts, of the Ladies' Committee, visited the Female Department, and Messrs. Strong, Halsted, and McMartin, of the School Committee, and Mr. Atterbury, of the Executive Committee, visited the Male Department.

Four inmates were discharged this day.

January 26.

Messrs. Ketchum, Bogert, and Downer, of the Indenturing Committee, visited the House officially this day.

Seven inmates were discharged and two received.

February 9.

Mr. Payson, Superintendent of the Reformatory Institutions on Deer Island, Mass., visited and inspected the House this afternoon.

Five inmates were discharged and two received.

February 19.

The usual morning services were held in the Chapel. Messrs. Herder and Hadden, of Harlem, and Messrs. Jackson and McIntyre, of St. Louis, Mo., visited the Sabbath-schools. Mr. Strong, President of the Board of Managers, and Mr. Russell, Clerk to the Society, were present during the day.

E. H——, who was a few months since discharged to the care of her mother, attended the morning services, accompanied by her little brother. She is doing well.

February 23.

Thomas C——, who was an inmate of the House in 1830, called to get a record of his age. He is in business for himself near to the city, and has a good reputation among his neighbors. He is now nearly fifty years of age, has a fine family, and is doing a good business. He gives us many very interesting accounts of old inmates who were in the House with him.

James F—— also called. He left in 1859. He has served three years in the army, but is now working at his trade in a neighboring city and doing well.

March 2.

William C——, who has made satisfactory arrangements with his master for the balance of his time, called to see us this morning. He is now under engagement with a gentleman to go to Illinois to take charge of a farm. We have had most favorable accounts of him from his master during his

apprenticeship, and he has a good reputation among his friends and acquaintances. He leaves to-morrow for his new field of labor.

March 19.

Mary D—— remained in the House last night. She has served her time faithfully, and has a good recommendation from her master. She has no near relatives living that she knows of, but says she intends to make friends wherever she goes by her faithfulness and good conduct. She is a fine young woman, and worthy of confidence.

March 23.

Daniel H ——, a colored boy, died this morning of consumption. He had been confined to the hospital several weeks. He bore his long and tedious illness with great resignation, and died in the full enjoyment of a Christian's hope. His friends have been permitted to be with him during his sickness, and feel grateful for the care he has received. They are unable to defray the expenses of his burial, and his remains will be interred in the grounds of the institution. The funeral services will be held to-morrow.

April 1.

Elizabeth L——, who left the House several years since, called to report herself and see her old friends. She came to the House when she was a very small girl, only eight years of age. She is now grown to be a fine young woman, and engaged with a family near the city, and doing well. She will remain through the night and return to her place in the morning.

April 8.

Christopher C——, a very respectable young man, called to pay his respects this morning. He was discharged from the House ten years ago, and during the time has earned a good reputation.

April 17.

Francis C—— called yesterday, and was present at the chapel service. He was taken to the "West" in 1858, and by his industry and good conduct has earned a good reputation. He has served his country nobly during the war, participating in most of the battles of the South and West. He is a member of the church, and held in high estimation by all who know him.

April 27.

Six inmates were discharged to the care of their friends, and seven new ones received this day.

April 28.

William W—— called this afternoon to report himself. He was permitted to enlist in the army in 1861, has served his time, and re-enlisted. He is on a short furlough on account of a wound received a few days since at Burkesville, Va. His personal appearance indicates good care.

Messrs. Atterbury, Cobb, and Smith, of the Executive Committee, and

Messrs. Strong, Halsted, and McMartin, of the School Committee, made their regular weekly official visit to the House this day.

May 15.

Robert W—— and George M——, two returned soldiers, paid us a visit this afternoon. They went as substitutes for parties a few months since, and now return with their discharges to receive their bounties. They are both well pleased with their experience as soldiers.

May 28.

Chapel exercises were held this morning as usual. Mr. Leveridge, of the Board of Managers, and Mr. Russell, Clerk to the Society, were present during the day. Messrs. Ray and Davis visited the Girls' Sabbath-school, and Messrs. Decker, Owens, and friends visited the Boys'.

June 1.

The work in the House was suspended for the day in accordance with the President's proclamation, and appropriate services held in the chapel.

June 10.

Bryant C—— called to see us this afternoon. He was discharged from the House in 1863, and soon after enlisted in the army. He looks well, and makes a good impression.

Julia K—— also paid us a visit. She is now living with her parents, doing well.

June 15.

Nancy C—— returned to the House this afternoon, accompanied by her mistress. She has served her time creditably, and will now go to her friends.

June 16.

James B——, John G——, and Isaac B——, three discharged soldiers, called to pay their respects this morning; they are fine young men.

June 18.

The chapel exercises, as usual, were held this morning. Managers W. Underhill, Bogert, and Silliman, accompanied by Dr. Miner, ex-Surgeon of the U. S. Navy, were present during the day. Messrs. Decker, Shepherd, and Dykeman visited the Sabbath-schools.

June 29.

Messrs. Atterbury, Smith, Bogert, W. Underhill, and Van Winkle, of the Board of Managers, accompanied by Honorable Judge Dykeman, of Brooklyn, Justices Walters and Clerk, of the Police Court of the above city, Justices Connolly, Dodge, Ledwith, and Kelly, of New York city, Mr. Johnston, Clerk of the Special Sessions, N. Y., and Mr. Thompson, Reporter of the same, visited and inspected the various departments this afternoon.

July 4.

The national holiday was appropriately kept. In the chapel, the children were addressed by several gentlemen present in a very interesting manner. The children for their part sang several patriotic pieces, led by Miss Stockwell, their music teacher. The children partook in the afternoon of the many good things provided by the Managers, and amused themselves in sports in the yards. The girls had a nice picnic under the trees in their yard, and in the evening were permitted to see the fireworks from the lawn in front of the House. The day passed off very pleasantly, and without accident.

Messrs. Halsted, Ketchum, Herder, and Cromwell, of the Board of Managers, and a large number of visitors were present during the day, and several of the former inmates improved the occasion to be present and participate with the boys in their sports.

July 9.

Patrick O—— and Francis W—— called to see us this morning, having recently been discharged from the army. They had been absent from the House several years. Patrick is now in business in the city, doing well. Both are fine young men.

July 13.

Jennie W—— came to the House this morning, and will remain a few days for a visit. She has served her time faithfully, and is greatly respected where she is known.

After visiting her friends, she will return to her mistress, and receive good wages for her service.

July 24.

John C——, John H——, Charles H——, and Owen W——, who have been away from the House for many years, called to see us this afternoon. J. C—— is married, and living in the city, holding a prominent place under the city government. John H—— holds a First Lieutenant's commission in the army. Charles H—— has not been mustered out of the army, but will be in a few days. Owen W—— has, until recently, been employed as baker in one of the institutions in New York, and has laid by a snug little sum of money. All are fine, intelligent young men.

August 6.

Edward D—— called to-day and attended the chapel services. He is married, and living in A——, working at his trade, and taking good care of his family.

August 9.

Patrick McC—— and Phillip B—— called to see us to-day. They have just returned from the army, and are on their way to their friends. Phillip will now receive his bounty money, which has been deposited in the bank for him.

Eliza A. M—— also called with her father. She is living home with her father, and doing well.

August 22.

Francis L——, accompanied by his wife, a sprightly young woman, paid us a short visit this evening. He left the House in 1856, and we heard nothing more of him until he reported himself this evening. He is now in business in the city, and doing well.

August 29.

Bridget O'C—— called this morning to say that she has served her time, and that she still remains in the neighborhood at service. We have received several favorable accounts of her during her apprenticeship, which are now confirmed by her good appearance.

September 17.

Thomas A——, accompanied by his father, called this morning to see us. He was discharged from the army last evening, and now intends to stay at home with his parents if he can find suitable employment. He is an intelligent young man.

September 21.

Messrs. Lent, Fitzgerald, and Jones, of the New York Common Council, accompanied by several members of the Chicago Common Council, visited and inspected the various departments this afternoon.

October 23.

Lewis L——, a soldier in the regular army and stationed at Governor's Island, came to see us this afternoon. He enlisted as a volunteer from the House in 1861, and has served through the war. He was severely wounded at the capture of Port Hudson, but has nearly recovered and is now able for duty. He is a fine-looking soldier.

October 24.

Mary J. E—— paid us a visit to-day and will remain through the night. She has served her time faithfully, and sustains a good character in the neighborhood. She goes back to-morrow to go to work for wages.

November 24.

Augustus S—— visited the House this afternoon and brought a certificate of good character from his master. He has a furlough for a few days to visit his friends as a reward for his faithfulness to his master's interest. He is well pleased with his place and intends to stay his full time.

November 27.

Earnest S—— called to-day after an absence of eleven years. He has been a sea-faring man most of the time and done well.

December 3.

William Van R——, colored, paid us a visit this afternoon and will remain through the night. He has received his discharge from the army, and now

intends to visit his friends in Connecticut. When he enlisted, he received a bounty of three hundred dollars, most of which he deposited with the Treasurer, Mr. Underhill. He will now receive his money and the interest, which, added to the amount due him when discharged from the army, will make him nearly five hundred dollars. He has been a good soldier for the Union.

Henry R—— called this afternoon. He is employed in a store in the city, receiving good wages, and living with his parents.

December 7.

In obedience to the proclamations of the National, State, and Municipal authorities, the work of the House was suspended for the day. In the morning the children were assembled in the chapel, and, in addition to the usual religious worship, the children were addressed by the Chaplain, Mrs. Lee, of New York, and ex-Manager Leigh.

The day being stormy, the children had very little opportunity for outdoor sports, but they made the best of a bad thing, and amused themselves in the play-rooms, and partaking of the good things provided by the Managers.

As is the case on every holiday, several of the former inmates visited the House, and were able to give good accounts of themselves.

James H—— and Charles R——, two colored boys, who have nearly served their time and earned a good reputation, came by permission of their masters, and will remain through the night.

Everything passed off pleasantly, and the boys retired at night apparently well pleased with the pleasures of the day.

December 8.

Sarah M—— has served her time faithfully. She came to the House this morning to make a short visit before she goes to service. Her master accompanied her, and said she had been an excellent girl.

December 25.

Christmas comes but once a year, the boys thought, as they entered upon the sports of the day, and they endeavored to make the most of it.

The work of the House was suspended for the day, and the children were treated to a Christmas dinner, and to good things at supper, according to their grades of conduct in the House.

The girls gave an entertainment in the evening, under the supervision of the Matron and her assistant, consisting of dialogues and singing, and, at the close of their exercises, they were favored by Mr. Herder with an exhibition of the magic lantern.

The day passed without a single accident, and very few were prevented by sickness from the festivities of the day.

Messrs. Halsted and Herder, of the Board of Managers, Mr. Shepherd, Sunday-school Visitor, Mr. Tappan, former State Prison Inspector, and ex-Alderman Tappan, with their families, and many other persons, visited the House during the day and evening.

LETTERS

FROM MASTERS OF CHILDREN WHOSE APPRENTICESHIP HAS NOT EXPIRED.

BOYS.

February 21, 1865.

DEAR SIR—In answer to yours of the 15th instant, I am happy to be able to answer favorably. William is attending school, and improves in his education. He makes fair promises of remaining his full time.

Yours, truly,

G. L.

February 24, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR—It is nearly one year since Charles C—— came with me. During that time he has been a good boy. We have never had occasion to punish him in any way. He goes to school and church, and associates with our best boys. He has a small credit in the Savings Bank, and is adding to his account by raising potatoes on a small plot I have given him. Next year I shall do better by him.

Yours, respectfully,

S. D. P.

March 2, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR—Michael M——, who was indentured to me in 1863, still continues with me. He has been attending school the past winter, and made good progress. His general deportment has been good. I think he was greatly benefited by the training he received in your institution; his temper and disposition still need culture. On the whole I feel greatly encouraged with him, and shall spare no pains to train him to usefulness and respectability.

Yours, truly,

S. V.

March 7, 1865.

DEAR SIR—Yours, inclosing the pictures of William's father, came safe to hand. He did not know his father in his soldier's clothes. You will please find in this his picture for his mother. William is healthy and contented. He attends school, and I call him a good boy.

Yours, &c.,

F. C. J.

April 5, 1865.

SIR—The two boys from the House of Refuge are doing well. They keep in good company, and we feel as well satisfied as ever with them. They go to church regularly, and to Sabbath-school during the summer. These boys have done so well that my neighbors are inquiring how to get boys from your place.

Yours, truly,

S. M. H.

April 10, 1865.

DEAR SIR—James is well and contented with his place. He went to school last winter, and made fair progress in his study. I think he would make a good mechanic if he had a chance. He is much interested in farming, and is handy in taking care of stock. I have his sister now with me. After he came here he told me of her, and wanted me to send to New York for her. I did so, and now they are both together, doing well. A few days after James was here, he said he did not like farming, and wanted to go back to the Refuge, but he soon got over his homesickness, and is now very contented.

Yours, respectfully,

J. H.

April 3, 1865.

DEAR SIR—I took from your place in 1851 a young lad named John L—. He served me faithfully until his time expired, and then went into business for himself in our village. He is proprietor of a boot and shoe-store, and doing a good business. He is much respected in the town, is a member of the church and a class leader, and is Deputy Postmaster. If you have another as good as John, I should like to have him.

Yours, &c.,

W. L.

May 1, 1865.

SIR—Agreeably to promise I write to inform you of Robert B—. I am well pleased with him, much better than I expected to be with a boy coming from the Refuge. So far as I can discover, and I have watched him secretly, he is faithful in all that is required of him, and is not profane nor vulgar in his language. In short, I am entirely satisfied with him.

Yours, very truly,

G. M.

May 1, 1865.

DEAR SIR—I am happy to let you know that my son Michael arrived home safely, and also that he is a different boy than he was when he went to the Refuge. I am very thankful for all that has been done for him. He went to work this morning, and I hope and trust will do well.

Yours, truly,

J. H.

May 8, 1865.

DEAR SIR—The boy, James C—, that I took from the Refuge is still with me, and is honest, industrious, and healthy. He says he likes the country very well, and I must say has so far proved a much better boy than I expected to get from the Refuge.

Yours, truly,

D. F.

June 6, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND—I have delayed writing that I might more fully prove August S—, and see what he would do. So far I find him as good a boy as I want. He appears contented here, and says he would not go back for anything to the city.

Yours, truly,

J. S. F.

June 9, 1865.

DEAR SIR—I write to inform you that Bernard B— is well, and has been well ever since he has been with me. He seems to be contented, and is getting on well.

Yours, truly,

J. H.

June 12, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND—Thomas McC—, whom I took from your place a few years ago, has served his time, and is now doing well for himself. He is married, and is taking good care of his family. If you have another boy that will suit me, I should like to have him.

Yours, very truly,

F. C.

July 15, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND—I am happy to inform you that Wm. M— is a good boy, and doing well. Having no son of my own, William has become very dear to me. The pleasantest information I have to give of him is that he has become, as I believe, a true Christian, and a member of our church. He often speaks of you all at the Refuge, and thanks God in his prayers that he was ever taken there. He fervently prays for all connected with the institution. Our prayers are that your institution may be blessed, and be the means of saving many more from ruin.

Yours, sincerely,

H. M. G.

July 28, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND—Francis M—— is still with me, well and hearty, and I like him very much. He goes to school and church, and I think will make a good boy. Charles and Mary D—— are both well, and doing finely.

Yours, sincerely, R. F.

August 9, 1865.

DEAR SIR—John K——, indentured to me from the House of Refuge, is a good boy. He goes to school in the winter, and works on the farm with me in the summer. I think him entirely honest, and he is very industrious. Last winter he took the prize in school for being the best writer. He sends his respects to you, and all who inquire after him.

Yours, truly, A. N. S.

August 10, 1865.

SIR—Patrick McN—— is still with me, and gives me entire satisfaction. He attends his Sabbath-school and church regularly, and is a very obedient little boy.

I told him to-day I was going to write you, and asked him what I should say for him. He said, "Tell Mr. Jones I like it too well here ever to come back, or to leave you."

Yours, truly, W. A. R.

August 11, 1865.

DEAR SIR—In reply to your inquiry, I am happy to say that Patrick McB—— is honest, industrious, and quite improved in education. He regularly attends Sabbath-school and church, and appears ambitious. From present appearances, I think your institution will never have cause to be ashamed of Patrick.

Yours, respectfully, B. A.

LETTERS FROM MASTERS OF GIRLS.

March 13, 1865.

DEAR SIR—I am happy to say that Mary S—— is with us still, and apparently contented. She is uniformly respectful and obedient, and is very fond of the baby. She has not been to school the past winter, but has been instructed in reading, &c., at home. She goes regularly to Sabbath-school and church with the family. I think there is every indication of her making a good woman. I shall urge her to write to you without dictation or review, in order that we may the better learn her own views of her present condition and future purposes.

Yours, truly, H. A. H.

March 20, 1865.

DEAR SIR—Mary J. S—— is a good girl, and gets along nicely. She says, "Tell Mr. Jones I like my place too well to go back."

A neighbor of mine wants a girl about like Mary, if you have one for him.

Yours, truly, G. W. C.

June 9, 1865.

SIR—In reply to yours of the 6th, I would say that Catherine C—— is still with me. I believe her to be perfectly honest, and well satisfied with her place. She goes regularly to Sabbath-school, and church, and prayer-meeting. Her health is very good.

Yours, truly, A. F. S.

June 26, 1865.

DEAR SIR—Margaret's time will expire in July. When she gets through with us, she wants to go to her mother. If you will send me word where she

is, I will take her to her mother. She has been a good girl. If you have another, I should like to have her when Margaret leaves.

Yours, &c.,

D. J. R.

July 23, 1865.

SIR—Yours, inquiring after Mary F——, is at hand, and noted. She is with us, doing well, and seems satisfied with her place. She goes to church and Sabbath-school, and is much improved. Yours, truly, S. M. R.

July 13, 1865.

SIR—In answer to yours respecting Mary Ann V——, I would say she is with us and doing well. She is as honest and truthful as most children. I allow her to all parts of the house with my own child. She goes to school daily, and also to Sabbath-school and church. She has learned but little about work yet, but I shall put her at it soon.

Yours, truly,

S. G. R.

July 23, 1865.

DEAR SIR—Mary M—— says she intends to stay with us as long as we want her. We find her very useful. She keeps good company, and is much respected by all her acquaintances. We have no fears of her running away, for we try to bring her up as one of our children. She sends her love to all her friends at the Refuge.

Yours, truly,

W. P. R.

August 4, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR—In answer to your questions of the 1st instant, I am happy to say that Mary R—— is a good girl, giving entire satisfaction. She is satisfied with her place, and intends to stay her time out. She goes to Sabbath-school and church, and last summer she was the best scholar in the Sabbath-school.

Respectfully,

D. L. V.

August 14, 1865.

SIR—In reply to your question, Sarah B——'s time expired in May last. She then left to visit her friends, after which she returned and engaged in my son's family for wages. He liked her while with us very well. She was a very pleasant girl, and much improved in looks. She was in the habit of attending Sabbath-school and church, and was much interested in the prayer-meeting.

Yours, very truly,

J. D.

LETTERS FROM BOYS AND GIRLS.

February 24, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND—I take this opportunity to let you know that I am well and getting along nicely. I go to school every day, and when I come home at night, I do up my work, and then have some time for play before studying my lessons. We have had some fine skating, which I enjoy very much. I am very thankful that you got for me such a good home. Please tell my father that I am getting along nicely. No more at present.

Yours, truly,

C. C.

Bagdad, Mexico, June 1, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR—According to promise I write you from this place, instead of Havana, as I promised. We had a hard passage out, and were obliged to put into Nassau, N. P., in distress. At the same time arrived the Confederate Ram Stonewall. Her officers and crew were shown all the favors and honors possible. Many a bottle of wine was drunk to the speedy downfall

of the United States. They received all the supplies they needed, and shipped some men. Such is English neutrality in 1865; but we will see what it will be one year from now. When we arrived at Havana, we found the Ram had arrived before us. She was as favorably received as at Nassau. In attempting to cross the bar at the mouth of the Rio Grande, we got aground, but fortunately we got off with slight damage. After we had passed we gave three rousing cheers, and started for our destination. I tell you greenbacks and graybacks were nowhere; nothing but gold and silver was looked at. What our course will be now I cannot tell. I shall keep you advised of what we do.

Yours, respectfully,

W. H.

May 28, 1865

DEAR SIR—I thought I would write to let you know how I like my place. I like farming very well, and Mr. A—— is a good man. If I do not learn the business, it will not be his fault. This place is just like home to me. I was very sorry to hear that Mr. Ketchum was dead. He was such a nice man. Remember me to all the Second Division boys and the officers.

Yours, with respect,

T. B.

October 6, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND—I have not heard from you since I left the Refuge. If you have forgotten me, I assure you I have not forgotten you. Mr. and Mrs. G—— are very kind to me, and I like my place very much. I go to Sunday-school and church most every Sunday. I went to day-school, and expect to again this winter. You will please excuse the writing. It is the first letter I ever wrote. I have long desired to be able to write you a letter, and now I beg that you will accept this my first effort. I am very sorry to learn that Miss O'B—— is sick. I trust she will soon be better. Please answer this soon.

Yours, for ever,

M. A. A.

October 1, 1865.

MY DEAR TEACHER—I arrived home on Friday morning, much fatigued by my journey. I miss the company of the girls very much. I hope Miss O'B—— is getting better. Please give this little note to Nellie if she has not gone out. The part of the city where we live is not a very busy place, and there are few temptations. I shall not write to Mr. Herder until I hear from you, which, I hope, will be soon. Please remember me to all the girls, and all others who may inquire after me.

From your pupil,

E. A.

April 30, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND—I take this opportunity to write you a few lines to let you know that I am in good health at present. You said you hoped I should live to spend my money. I hope I may. You will please keep it for me, for I think we will finish the war this spring and summer. Please write me often.

Yours, as ever,

P. B.

Raleigh, N. C., April 28, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND—I take this opportunity to inform you that I am in General Sherman's army. After a march of 400 miles we have reached the capital of North Carolina, and what is more, we have made the rebel General Johnston surrender his whole army, and ended the rebellion. This has been a long but glorious campaign. From the time we started until we reached this place, we marched 400 miles, fought six battles. Now that the war is nearly over, we hope to get home soon. W. L—— has joined my regiment; he is well. I have seen several of the boys; they are all well. I hope all the officers at the House are well.

Yours, truly,

W. J. H.

February 11, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR—It is now more than a year since I left the Refuge. I have not heard from any one except when Mr. P—— called on me. I have attended the Sabbath-school all summer, and we had a pie-nic at which we had a very nice time. Mr. Cobb, our pastor, has preached to the children twice since I have been here. I suppose most of the girls I knew have gone out. I am thankful that I have such a nice place. Mr. and Mrs. B—— are very kind to me; they have but two children, one twelve and the other six years old. Please answer this.

Yours, sincerely,

M. McL.

March 24, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND—As I have an opportunity, I improve it, in writing to you. arrived home safely, and have a good place to work. When I left, you were out, and I could not say good-by to you, but I told Mr. H—— to say good-by for me. I mean to try and do well. I think of the Refuge every day, and of the instruction I received, and I mean to practice it. I send my respects to all my friends. Please answer this soon.

Your friend,

C. D. H.

June 6, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR—I write to let you know that I got safe home, and found my friends all well. I stayed in B—— a few days, and then came to my present place. I like the people very much. Please tell Miss O'B—— I shall never forget her for her kindness to me while in the Refuge. I am trying to be a good girl, and I mean to stay in my place as long as I can. It was lonesome at first, but now I do not mind it. I am getting ten shillings per week, and after awhile I shall get more. No more at present from

Yours, truly,

E. S.

May 21, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND—I am well pleased with my new home. I do not have to work hard. If every one could have as nice a place as I have, I should feel glad, for I think they would be well taken care of. We shall have plenty of fruit. We have two large peach orchards, and shall have peaches enough for you all if you will come and see us. Mr. G—— says he is well pleased with me, and I have no wish to run away. Please write to me.

Your friend,

G. H.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDINGS.

The House of Refuge is located on the easterly bank of the Harlem river, on Randall's Island, and directly opposite that portion of the city of New York which is included between One Hundred and Fifteenth and One Hundred and Twentieth streets. The buildings are of brick, erected in the Italian style. The two principal structures front the river, and form a façade nearly a thousand feet in length. The line of their fronts is exactly parallel with the city avenues. The larger of the two buildings is for the accommodation of the boys' department, the other for the girls'. Other buildings are located in the rear of these, and are inclosed by a stone wall twenty feet high. A division wall, of like height, separates the grounds of the boys' department from that of the girls', and in each department walls separate the inmates into two divisions.

The boys' house is nearly six hundred feet long. The dome-surmounted portions are devoted to the use of the officers ; the central mass also contains the chapel ; while the extreme portions contain the hospitals and lavatories. There are six hundred and thirty-six dormitories, five feet by seven, and seven feet high, in the portion between the centre and end buildings. In the rear is the school and dining-hall building, seventy by one hundred and thirty-eight feet. A central brick wall divides the building in each story into two equal parts, one for each division. The lower story is appropriated to dining-rooms, and the upper story to school-rooms. In the rear of the school building are the kitchen and bakery, occupying a space twenty-five by ninety feet. The workshops are at the northerly and southerly extremities of the yard, and are each thirty by one hundred feet, and three stories high.

The girls' house is two hundred and fifty feet long—the central portion of which contains the apartments of the matron, assistants, and female teachers, while the wings contain two hundred and fifty dormitories for the inmates. In the rear, connected by two corridors or covered halls, is a building for school-rooms and dining-halls—the hospitals, sewing-rooms, and lavatories being at each end, with the laundry in the rear.

The whole establishment is supplied with Croton water, brought across the Harlem river in a three and one-quarter inch lead pipe. Tanks are in the attics of the principal buildings, and a reservoir, one hundred feet diameter, located beyond the inclosure, affords a reserve for extraordinary occasions, as well as a plentiful supply of ice in the winter.

CIRCULAR.

SOCIETY FOR THE REFORMATION OF }
JUVENILE DELINQUENTS, }

NEW YORK, January 1, 1866.

The Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in the city of New York hereby give notice that the House of Refuge on Randall's Island, under their charge, has provision for 750 boys and 250 girls—the buildings for each sex being entirely separate and distinct.

This notice is sent throughout the State, in order that the authorities of the counties at a distance from the city may be informed of the ample provision thus afforded by the well-judged liberality of the Legislature for the reformation of the youthful offender, whether male or female.

The House of Refuge of Western New York, located at Rochester, receives boys only, no department for girls having been organized therein; and the New York House is now prepared to receive girls, when properly committed, of sixteen years of age and under, from all parts of the State.

The Managers, having been informed that the expense of sending culprits from the more remote counties, under a former law, has been onerous upon them, call attention to the following law, passed April 12, 1859 :

“AN ACT *empowering the Boards of Supervisors, in the respective counties of this State, to fix and determine the compensation to be allowed for the conveyance of Juvenile Delinquents to Houses of Refuge, and Insane Criminals to Insane Asylums.*

“SECTION 1. The Boards of Supervisors in the respective counties of this State are hereby empowered, and it shall be their duty, annually to fix and determine the compensation to be allowed and paid to officers for the conveyance of juvenile delinquents to the houses of refuge, and of lunatics to the insane asylums; and no other or greater amount than that so fixed and determined shall be allowed and paid for such service.

“SEC. 2. Repeals conflicting laws.

“SEC. 3. Takes effect immediately.”—Page 553, Laws 82d Session, 1859.

The accompanying acts are also referred to as conveying information which may be useful to magistrates out of the city and county of New York :

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "*An Act to incorporate the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, in the city of New York,*" passed March 29, 1824.

PASSED APRIL 10, 1860.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly; do enact as follows :

SECTION 1. The act entitled "*An Act to incorporate the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, in the city of New York,*" passed March 29, 1824, is hereby amended, by adding to the fourth section thereof the following words :

"The Managers of the said Society shall receive into the House of Refuge, established by them in the city of New York, whenever they may have room for that purpose, all such children as shall be taken up, or committed as *vagrants*, in any city or county of this State, and might now, if convicted of criminal offenses in such city or county, be sent as directed by law to said House of Refuge, if, in the judgment of the court or magistrate by whom they shall be committed as *vagrants*, the aforesaid children shall be deemed proper persons to be sent to said institution.

"The powers and duties of the said Managers, in relation to the children whom they shall receive in virtue of this act, shall be the same in all things as now provided by law, in case of children convicted of criminal offenses and committed to the charge of said Managers."

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "*An Act to incorporate the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in the city of New York,*" passed March 29, 1824.

PASSED MARCH 22, 1865 ; THREE-FIFTHS BEING PRESENT.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :

SECTION 1. The Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents shall, as soon as conveniently may be after the next annual election of the Society, arrange themselves into three classes of ten each, to be determined by lot, to serve respectively one, two, and three years, and at every subsequent election, at the expiration of the terms thus designated, ten persons shall be chosen as Managers to serve for the term of three years ; any vacancy that may occur in any class during the term of service of said class may be filled by the Board of Managers for the unexpired portion of said term.

§ 2. The fourth section of the act entitled "*An Act to incorporate the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in the city of New York,*" passed March 29, 1824, is amended by striking out the following words : "*Provided that the charge and power of the said Managers upon and over the said children shall not extend in the case of females beyond the age of eighteen years.*"

§ 3. It shall be the duty of all Courts and Magistrates, by whom any

juvenile delinquent shall be committed or sent to the House of Refuge in the city of New York, to ascertain the age of such delinquent by such proof as may be in their power, and to insert such age in the order of commitment, and the age thus ascertained shall be deemed and taken to be the true age of such delinquent.

§ 4. In cases where the age of the delinquent so committed is not so ascertained and inserted in the order of commitment, the said Managers shall, as soon as may be after such delinquent shall be received by them, ascertain the age of such delinquent by such proof as may be in their power, and cause the same to be entered in a book to be designated by them for that purpose, and the age thus ascertained shall be deemed and taken to be the true age of such delinquent.

§ 5. All children under the age of sixteen in the several counties, which now are or hereafter shall be designated by law as the counties from which juvenile delinquents shall be sent to the House of Refuge in the city of New York, deserting their homes without good and sufficient cause, or keeping company with dissolute or vicious persons against the lawful commands of their fathers, mothers, guardians, or other persons standing in the place of a parent, shall be deemed disorderly children.

§ 6. Upon complaint made on oath to any Police Magistrate or Justice of the Peace against any child within his county, under the age of sixteen, by his or her parent or guardian, or other person standing to him or her in place of a parent, as being disorderly, such Magistrate or Justice shall issue his warrant for the apprehension of the offender, and cause him or her to be brought before himself or any other Police Magistrate or Justice of the said county for examination.

§ 7. If such Magistrate or Justice be satisfied by competent testimony, that such person is a disorderly child within the description aforesaid, he shall make up and sign a record of conviction thereof, and shall by warrant under his hand commit such person to the House of Refuge established by the Managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in the city of New York; and the powers and duties of the said Managers in relation to the said children shall be the same in all things as are prescribed as to other juvenile delinquents received by them; provided, however, that any person committed under this act shall have the same right of appeal now secured by law to persons convicted of criminal offense; but on any such appeal mere informality in the issuing of any warrant shall not be held to be sufficient cause for granting a discharge.

§ 8. This act shall take effect immediately.

By order of the Board,

OLIVER S. STRONG,

President.

ANDREW WARNER,

Secretary.

CIRCULAR TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

SOCIETY FOR THE REFORMATION
OF JUVENILE DELINQUENTS,
HOUSE OF REFUGE (*Randall's Island*), }

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The Managers of the House of Refuge take this method of informing you that your has been received as an inmate of their Institution, to remain during minority, or until discharged by the Managers or by due process of law.

For your information, the Managers deem it proper to state that the Institution is not a place of punishment nor a prison, but a Reform School, where the inmates receive such instruction and training as are best adapted to form and perpetuate a virtuous character, to establish habits of industry, and to advance them in those branches of knowledge which are taught in the Common Schools of the State.

They are accordingly provided with a home every way pleasant and comfortable ; are furnished with steady employment of a kind to enable them to earn their own support after their discharge ; have appropriate seasons of recreation ; are well fed and clothed, and, when sick, are attended by the House Physician and carefully nursed ; are regularly gathered into school at certain hours on five days of the week, and on the Sabbath are furnished with suitable religious and moral instruction. In order to accomplish the wise ends contemplated by the beneficent provision of the State, the inmates must remain a sufficient time to receive such training and discipline as will serve to reform their evil habits and to establish in them correct principles and habits of industry. The Managers, therefore, are guided in their decisions as to the term during which inmates shall be retained in the House by their conduct while confined, and with a due regard to the previous history of the inmate, either prolong or shorten the period of confinement according to the circumstances of greater or less delinquency in each case. Applications for the discharge of inmates are frequently made within a few weeks after their commitment, which, however, cannot be entertained. Only in special cases, the circumstances of which can be stated at the City Office, will applications be received by the Indenturing Committee under twelve months from the date of committal.

Parents, guardians, and other near friends of those children sent from the cities of New York and Brooklyn are permitted to visit them once in three months, and on their first visit will receive a card designating these periods. Where friends reside at a distance from the city, they will be permitted to see

their children at any time they are in the city, provided their visits are not oftener than once in three months. If unable, from residing at too great a distance, to visit their children, they will be permitted to write to them once within the prescribed period, and to receive letters in return.

In case of the serious illness of any child, the friends will be at once advised of its condition.

The House of Refuge is on Randall's Island, in the Twelfth Ward of the city of New York, and the ferry at the foot of East One Hundred and Seventeenth street can be reached at all hours, either by the Second or Third Avenue Railroad. The City Office is at No. 516 Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel, and is open between the hours of 9, A. M., and 4, P. M., where the relatives and friends of children can procure information respecting their welfare.

In behalf of the Managers,

OLIVER S. STRONG,

President.

ANDREW WARNER,

Secretary.